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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

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LG/NAIROBI

ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNITED NATIONS AFRICAN INSTITUTE FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRIME AND THE TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS (UNAFRI)

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* E/ECA/TPCW.8/1.

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Historical background

1. The United Nations programme for crime prevention and criminal justice began as early as 1950 with the transfer of the functions of the international Penal and Penitentiary Commission. One of the main responsibilities assumed by the United Nations was the organization, every five years, of congress on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, which have provided a world forum for the exchange of views and experiences in the field. The first United Nations Congress was held in Geneva, in 1955; the second in London, in 1960; the third in Stockholm, in 1965; the fourth in Kyoto, in 1970; the fifth in Geneva, in 1975; the sixth in Caracas, in 1980; and the seventh Congress in Milan, in 1985.

2. After the second Congress, demand for the establishment of regional institutes for crime prevention and treatment of offenders was addressed to the United Nations. The United Nations accepted this new challenge and in 1961 the first of such institutes was created for Asia and the Far East (UNAFEI) in Tokyo, Japan. In 1975, the second of such institutes was established for Latin America (ILANUD) and located in San Jose, Costa Rica. The third regional institute was established in Helsinki, Finland, in 1981, for European countries.

Legislative mandates

3. Numerous recommendations and resolutions have been adopted calling for the establishment of an African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders. As early as 1975, the fifth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders recommended that the "governments concerned and the United Nations should consider the early establishment of regional research facilities for crime prevention and the promotion of criminal justice in Africa". The African Regional Preparatory Meeting for the sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, held in Addis Ababa, in August 1978, adopted a resolution urging "the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to take all necessary steps for the creation of the African Regional Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders". In May 1979, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1979/20 on "Technical co-operation in crime prevention control', requesting the Secretary-General of the United Nations to "establish an institute for Africa south of the Sahara, in the field of crime prevention and the treatment of offenders". In July 1979, the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in Monrovia, adopted resolution CM/RES/755(XXXIII) on the establishment of African anti-crime organizations. The resolution was subsequently endorsed by the sixteenth Assembly of OAU Heads of State and Government.

4. The Conference of Ministers of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) adopted resolution 392(XV), in April 1980, requesting the Executive Secretary of ECA, in consultation with the relevant international and regional organizations, to take all appropriate steps to establish a

United Nations regional institute for the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders for Africa south of the Sahara. Resolution 19 adopted by the sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders held in Caracas, from 25 August to 5 September 1980, recommended that the Secretary-General "should view favourably the establishment in Africa of a regional body for social defence studies, along the lines of those already set up in the other regions of the world; ... should provide the necessary means to assist that body, once it has been set up, in effectively discharging its tasks, in the form of financial assistance from the United Nations Development Programme". This recommendation was subsequently endorsed by General Assembly resolution 35/171 of 15 December 1980.

5. The urgent need for the establishment of an appropriate African institute in social defence was also expressed by participants at the African Regional Preparatory Meeting for the seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, held in Addis Ababa from 28 November to 2 December 1983. In this connection, they adopted a resolution on subregional, regional and international co-operation in crime prevention and criminal justice, expressing "great concern in the delay in the establishment of the African regional institute ... and called upon all the organizations and agencies involved in the establishment of this institute to take urgent steps to ensure the early realization of this project ...". Following the regional preparatory meeting, the seventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and the Treatment of Offenders, in its resolution 4, urgently requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to establish, as a matter of the highest priority, in close collaboration with th Organization of African Unity and with the participation of ECA, an African Regional Institute ...". This resolution also requested the Secretary-General to "arrange a meeting of African experts on this issue as soon as possible in order to consider the role, operation, organization and administration of the Regional Institute". Similarly, the Milan Plan of Action, unanimously adopted by the seventh Congress, recommended to the United Nations General Assembly that action should be taken for the immediate establishment of the African Institute. The General Assembly, in its resolution 40/32 of 29 November 1985 endorsed all the resolutions of the seventh Congress including resolution 4 and the Milan Plan of Action.

Progress achieved

6. Pursuant to all these resolutions, and in recognition of the negative effects of crime on the development of African countries, the Secretary-General convened a preparatory meeting of African experts in Vienna, Austria, from 17 to 19 March 1986, to advise him on issues to be considered by the Group of Governmental Experts, as requested by the seventh Congress. Participants to the preparatory meeting included members of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control from the African region, representatives from the Organization of African Unity, the Economic Commission for Africa and the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs (DIESA). The preparatory meeting made a number of recommendations concerning the role, objectives, functions, membership, structure and organization of the Institute, for consideration by the Group of Governmental Experts.

7. The meeting of the Group of Governmental Experts on the Establishment of a United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFRI) met at United Nations Headquarters in New York, from 10 to 12 September 1986. It was attended by representatives of 23 Member States of the African region, the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations. The meeting considered and agreed on a number of issues as follows:

Objectives

8. The objectives of UNAFRI should be to:

(a) Assess criminality trends in the region and their impact on national development;

(b) Assist in the formulation of policies and programmes for the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders in the context of overall national development planning;

(c) Assist in formulating common policy and undertaking joint action on matters of mutual concern in crime prevention and control and exchanging information and experience in this field;

(d) Assist in the promotion of criminal justice reforms in accordance with United Nations norms and guidelines drawing on African traditions and orientations as well as new developments in the field.

Functions

9. The functions of the Institute should be to:

(a) Operate a programme for the collection, analysis and dissemination of data related to crime prevention and criminal justice;

(b) Conduct crime and criminal justice surveys, and to engage in research designed to assist member States in planning for crime prevention and control, and to develop indigenous approaches and solutions in this area;

(c) Publish and disseminate information relating to new developments in criminal justice, aimed at keeping African criminal justice personnel abreast of developments;

(d) Provide, upon request, to African member States, technical assistance in matters of crime prevention and control;

(e) Provide additional in-service training for criminal justice personnel, including policy-makers, administrators, judges, prosecutors, lawyers, police and correctional officials, teachers, social workers and researchers;

(f) Conduct training courses and seminars for the teaching staff of national criminal justice-related training establishments;

(g) Collect and adapt to the cultural and social specificities of the region audio-visual materials in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice to be used for training purposes;

(h) Promote joint action on problems of common concern and conduct any other activities related to its objectives;

(i) Promote technical co-operation and the exchange of knowledge and experience among African countries in the field of crime prevention and the treatment of offenders.

Membership

10. The consensus was that, in view of the various resolutions calling for the Institute's establishment in close collaboration with OAU and with the participation of ECA, membership should be open to all member States of OAU and of ECA.

Governing Board of the Institute

11. The meeting decided that Board members would be elected to serve for a term of two to three years, with staggered arrangements to ensure continuity of membership and the work of the Board. The membership of the Board would include:

(a) Five African representatives from member States: one each from each of the five subregional groups to serve as full members;

(b) A representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations as an ex-officio member;

(c) The Executive Secretary of ECA or his representative as an ex-officio member;

(d) The Secretary-General of OAU or his representative as an ex-officio member;

(e) A representative of UNDP as an ex-officio member;

(f) A representative of the host country as an ex-officio member;

(g) Experts invited by the Governing Board in their capacity as observers/advisers.

12. Voting would be limited to representatives of member States on the Governing Board and the appropriate body of ECA should be the forum for selecting these members of the Board. In this respect, the attention of

the eighth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole is being drawn to the need to make appropriate proposals on this issue for consideration by the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers.

Chairmanship of the Governing Board

13. The consensus on this subject was that the Chairman should be elected by the voting members of the Board, and should serve for one year, to permit the rotation of this position among the various subregions.

Reporting of the Governing Board

14. It was decided that:

(a) The Governing Board should report to ECOSOC through the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, and its report should be made available, for information, to the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs;

(b) Any views expressed by the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs on the operation of the African Institute should be referred to ECA which should report thereon, with comments, if any, to ECOSOC;

(c) The Director of the Institute, who should be the Executive Secretary of the Governing Board, should attend the Board meeting in a consultative capacity.

Functions of the Governing Board

15. The functions of the Board, which would meet once a year, should be to:

(a) Formulate policies and guidelines for the functions of the Institute;

(b) Elaborate the programme of work and budget of the Institute;

(c) Issue directives and take measures, within the framework of the agreement, for the establishment of the Institute;

(d) Establish, as necessary, its subsidiary bodies.

16. The Board would establish its own rules of procedures.

Secretariat and host country for the Institute:

17. The meeting agreed that the secretariat of UNAFRI should consist of the Director, who will be assisted in discharging his duties by both permanent and temporary personnel. Pending the selection of the host country, the Institute would begin its operation at ECA headquarters in Addis Ababa. The Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, ECA and OAU would second one or two staff members each to initiate the work of the Institute.

Concerning host facilities, the Group of Governmental Experts agreed on the selection criteria and on the obligations of the host country. In this connection, a joint ECA/OAU 1/ note verbale was circulated to governments of all member States, in August 1986, inviting them to indicate their interest in offering host facilities for the Institute. The early selection of a host country is considered of utmost importance, as it will facilitate the work of the Institute and enhance its service delivery to member States. Interested governments are therefore urged to kindly inform the ECA and OAU secretariats of their intention to host the Institute at their earliest convenience, but not later than 30 April 1987.

Financing of the Institute

18. The Institute's activities would be financed primarily from contributions by member States based on the OAU scale of assessment. Extrabudgetary resources could also be mobilized in this respect. The United Nations financial rules and regulations would be applicable in the administration and control of the Institute's finances.

19. Following the meeting of the Group of governmental experts, and through the efforts of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, in consultation with ECA and OAU, the UNDP approved a grant of $US 250,000 to cover activities of the initial phase of the project. In December 1986, two staff members of DIESA arrived in Addis Ababa, to assist ECA in the elaboration of the specific activities of the Institute during its initial phase. A working-level meeting attended by representatives of DIESA, ECA, UNDP, and OAU was held at ECA on 12 December 1986, to review the progress so far made in the establishment of UNAFRI and to consider how best to implement the proposed activities during the initial phase. The meeting also reviewed the temporary assignment of staff from DIESA, ECA, and OAU to UNAFRI as had been agreed upon earlier. In this respect DIESA had designated one staff member to work on the preparatory activities of the project, on a full-time basis, since the end of 1985. Substantive support had also been provided by the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, and as well as the United Nations Social Defence Institute. ECA, on its part, has designated one of its staff members in the Division of Social Development, Environment and Human Settlement, as Officer-in-Charge, pending the appointment of the Director. Since it has now assumed responsibility as the interim secretariat of UNAFRI, ECA will make available its facilities for the smooth operation of the activities of the Institute during the initial phase. The assignment of staff to the interim secretariat is also under consideration by the OAU. With all this, the initial phase of UNAFRI is effectively in operation.

20. During the nine-month period of the initial phase, a number of activities are envisaged as follows:

1/ ECA and OAU each sent a separate note verbale to the country not a member of the other.

(a) Assessment of the requirements for crime prevention and the resources of the countries of the region;

(b) Elaboration of the details of the Institute's long-term work programme;

(c) Design of the training programme and core-curriculum for two seminar-courses for senior criminal justice officials and planners, and for juvenile delinquency personnel, respectively;

(d) Adaptation of the United Nations Manual for the collection of crime statistics to the special African needs;

(e) Initiation of a pilot project for the collection of comprehensive crime statistics;

(f) Establishment of a framework for the Institute's information/documentation centre;

(g) Identification of the main sources of information on crime, crime prevention and criminal justice in the context of development in the region and feasibility study on the establishment of a regional crime prevention and criminal justice information network as part of an effort to set up a global network of this kind;

(h) Identification of possible sources of funding and assistance from within and outside the region and, of possible collaborative initiatives.

1. ECA resolution 585(XXI) of 19 April 1986 requests that a progress report be submitted to the twenty-second session of the Commission on the establishment of an African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) and on the implementation of ECA resolution 540(XX) of 29 April 1985, paragraph 3 on the World Meteorological Organization's regional telecommunications system.

2. Based on the requirements of the resolution 585(XXI), this progress report is presented under the following sections:

(a) Preparation of a draft Constitution of ACMAD;

(b) Consultations with potential host countries for the Centre;

(c) Implementation of the preparatory assistance phase of the ACMAD project, 1986;

(d) Implementation of ECA resolution 540(XX) on WMO regional telecommunications system (as a supporting feature for ACMAD);

(e) Recommendations on ACMAD made at ECA and WMO intergovernmental bodies.

3. At the time of the preparation of the current progress report on the Centre, only the reports on sections (a) and (c) have been completed as presented herewith. Action on the other two sections were initiated but are still incomplete, and the reports will be submitted later as an addendum to this document.

(a) Preparation of a draft Constitution of ACMAD

4. To prepare the draft Constitution of ACMAD for the implementation of operative paragraph 2 of ECA resolution 585(XXI), ECA and WMO jointly organized an Inter-agency Expert Consultations at the WMO regional office for Africa in Bujumbura, Burundi in October 1986. The expert group meeting was attended by WMO permanent representatives of Burundi, Egypt, Kenya, Malawi and Mali under the chairmanship of Ethiopia. The subregional ad hoc group was approved at the last meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers to assist ECA and WMO in the establishment of ACMAD (see document E/ECA/CM.12/14). United Nations representatives were from ECA, UNESCO, UNDP and WMO, including two WMO consultants for the preparatory assistance phase of ACMAD. Observers from the Overseas Development Administration (ODA) and from the British Meteorological Service, United Kingdom were also present at the meeting.

5. The main purpose of the expert group meeting was to prepare a draft constitution of the Centre. However, the meeting also considered:

(a) A draft host country agreement;

(b) Criteria for hosting the Centre;

(c) Technical details of the full-scale project document to establish the Centre; and

(d) Financing of the Centre by member States and donors.

6. The expert group worked on the draft constitution for the Centre prepared by the ECA Legal Officer present at the meeting. He explained the general features of the constitution, the background documents on ACMAD used in drafting and what elements were excluded from the constitution, and finally the procedure for bringing the constitution into force.

7. The meeting discussed the draft article by article to produce a revised draft which was later harmonized at Geneva with WMO Legal Officers before submission to the fourth meeting of the Joint Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and Environment at ECA, Addis Ababa, from 9 to 13 February 1987 as an annex to the Report of the ad hoc group meeting (document E/ECA/ENV/34). The latest version of the draft constitution is attached to this report as annex I.

8. The ad hoc group agreed that the draft constitution of the Centre should not provide for an assembly in view of previous ECA resolutions putting a moratorium on the establishment of new institutions for financial reasons. The supreme body of the Centre is the ECA Conference of Ministers, to which the governing body should report through the Joint Intergovernmental Committee mentioned earlier.

Draft host country agreement

9. The expert group meeting accepted the standard format agreement for ECA-sponsored institutions between the Centre and the future host country. The host country agreement is attached as annex II to this report.

Criteria for the location of the Centre

10. The expert group meeting reviewed the technical requirements for the location of the Centre and after detailed discussions, agreed that the host country must have the following functional facilities:

(a) A university which has recognized capability in training and in applied research, particularly in tropical meteorology and other essential disciplines such as mathematics, physics and computer sciences;

(b) A regional telecommunications hub (RTH) with functional automated message switching system (AMSS) and a regional meteorological centre (RMC), located preferably in the main trunk circuit of the WMO Global Telecommunications System (GTS) in order to have ready access to meteorological data available on the WMO World Weather Watch (WWW) Systems;

(c) Adequate data processing facilities (computer, hardware, software, expertise for the operations and maintenance of the systems, etc.), to be used by ACMAD during the initial stages for its needs and requirements;

(d) Satellite data receiving and processing capabilities;

(e) Ready access to institutions of research and applications both in Africa and outside the region, in agriculture, forestry, water resources management, renewable sources of energy and environment, aimed at tackling the problems of drought, desertification and food self-sufficiency;

(f) Physical facilities to accommodate the Centre now but with possibilities for expansion in the near future.

11. The expert meeting also agreed that these facilities should be available and fully operational in the host country to permit the establishment of ACMAD during 1987.

12. The meeting further recommended that the attention of the ECA Conference of Ministers be drawn on the critical importance of the technical facilities to be available in the host country, if the establishment and operation of ACMAD are to be fulfilled successfully. The initial investments required could also be substantially increased depending on the site of the Centre.

(b) Consultations with prospective host countries

13. The expert group meeting noted that the ECA resolution 585(XXI) had directed the Executive Secretary of ECA to investigate the willingness of potential candidates for hosting ACMAD to underwrite the necessary capital and other costs involved in the establishment of ACMAD. It recommended that, in view of the interest expressed during the last session of the ECA Conference of Ministers and considering the results of the first preliminary study regarding potential host countries, the ECA and WMO secretariats consult, as soon as possible, the governments of those countries on their interest to host ACMAD. The ECA and WMO secretariats should ensure that missions are carried out to these countries with a view to providing the ECA Conference of Ministers with all the details required on the existing facilities to enable it to decide objectively on the location of ACMAD.

14. To implement the above resolution, ECA has sent the details of this operative paragraph to five potential location sites, namely Oran, Algeria; Cairo, Egypt; Nairobi, Kenya; Niamey, the Niger and Dakar, Senegal determined according to the list in the WMO/ECA feasibility study on the establishment of ACMAD reported in an annex to document E/ECA/CM.12/14 submitted to the last meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers. In addition to the financial considerations on the willingness of potential host countries 1/ to underwrite the costs, the ECA memorandum also requested them to provide detailed information on the functional facilities available for hosting the Centre as spelt out in paragraph 10 above.

15. ECA is awaiting a response from each of the five prospective host countries on the issues raised. An addendum to this section will report on their responses to the ECA Conference of Ministers.

(c) Implementation of the preparatory assistance phase of ACMAD project, 1986

16. ECA resolution 585(XXI) operative paragraph 3 requested ECA, in collaboration with WMO, to seek financial support from UNDP, UNSO, the World Bank, ADB, bilateral and multilateral donors to establish the Centre and to carry out the project preparatory assistance phase in 1986 towards the establishment of the Centre, and to report to the Commission at its twenty-second session in 1987.

1/ Potential host countries are the five countries selected by the ECA/WMO feasibility study, whose national meteorological service has all the functional facilities to accommodate the Centre when established.

17. UNDP approved a preparatory assistance project for ACMAD (RAF/86/026) in May 1986 for the preparation, through consultancies, missions and meetings, of more detailed documentation for the administrative and financial rules (including the constitution), the technical structure, the objectives and functions, the work programme of the Centre for the next five years, and the estimates of the financial requirements. A summary of the consultancy report will be presented by WMO to the fourth meeting of the Joint Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and Environment in February 1987. Meanwhile, the main elements of the consultants' recommendations on the above features of the Centre are summarized below together with the observations and recommendations of the ECA/WMO Inter-agency Expert Group meeting.

Technical details on the full-scale project document of ACMAD

18. The expert group meeting reviewed the full-scale project document in the light of additional technical details provided by the two WMO consultants recruited under the preparatory assistance project to prepare a suitable implementation plan based on a survey to be undertaken in relation to the establishment of ACMAD. The meeting discussed, in particular, the substantive items concerning the objectives, functions, activities, outputs, the work programme, organizational structure (both internal and external), the manpower, material and financial requirements as well as the economic benefits of ACMAD.

19. Objectives: the long-term objectives of ACMAD should be contributing towards the socio-economic development of the African countries particularly in assisting them in their effort towards self-sufficiency in food production, water resource management and energy. Specifically, ACMAD will:

(a) Strengthen the capabilities of national meteorological services and promote the development of manpower capabilities in the application and use of meteorological/climatological data;

(b) Provide a meteorological/climatological early warning watch system based on the state-of-the-art methodologies for analysis and prediction;

(c) Develop new and practical methodologies for meteorological applications in order to:

(i) reduce variability and risk of losses in food crop production;

(ii) reduce costs and energy inputs in food crop production;

(iii) increase food production and strengthen food security;

(iv) improve water resources management, especially in drought-prone and drought-stricken areas;

(v) develop alternative renewable sources of energy;

(d) Provide a better understanding of the atmospheric conditions prevailing in the African region which affect critical human activities; and

(e) Act as an African "centre of excellence" in meteorology including both scientific research and training.

20. The expert group meeting agreed that one of the objectives of ACMAD should be the strengthening of the national weather services to enable them to take full advantage of development opportunities offered by the Centre in support of their respective national economies. The Centre could in turn make optimum use of existing resources in each country and ensure a mutually beneficial interaction.

21. The meeting noted the role of ACMAD as outlined by the WMO consultants and agreed that the Centre should focus on developing those aspects of meteorology which are not catered for by the national and subregional centres. The most critical gaps in the applications of meteorology are in the areas of acquiring and adapting agro-meteorological techniques which have been successfully applied elsewhere in aid of self-sufficiency in food production and energy resources in order to address the many pressing issues of drought and other climate/weather-related disasters (like flood, pest control) and to foster crop diversification. Another area of application would be the evaluation and application of modern numerical analysis and prediction methods as a means of maintaining a continental meteorological/climatological watch system. Statistical and empirical methods should also be tested and adapted. ACMAD would function primarily on the continental scale and serve as a bridge in carrying out such knowledge and methods to the regional and national levels.

22. The meeting was of the view that the greatest contribution that ACMAD can make to African economic development was as a "centre of excellence" in meteorological applications and as such, will be the source of advancement in expertise, knowledge and facilities required in Africa to enrich existing training and development programmes, and to stimulate the much needed applied research in such areas as tropical meteorology and rain-producing systems. These would require a "critical mass" of people and technical facilities at the Centre. The meeting felt that ACMAD should be established close to existing professional training and applied research institutions to optimize investments. Consequently, research and training would be by-products of functions related to establishing state-of-the-art facilities and expertise in a meteorological/climatological watch system and application methodologies.

23. The long-term objectives should ensure the total development of the whole meteorological system in a harmonious manner. As such, the Centre should deal with all meteorological phenomena of concern to the continent and be responsive to the evolving needs of Africa.

24. Functions: the expert group meeting agreed that the primary functional areas of ACMAD should be:

(a) Meteorological applications development;

(b) Meteorological/climatological watch operations;

(c) Numerical analysis and weather prediction development; and

(d) Informatics and satellite meteorology technology support.

The meeting considered that efficient and reliable telecommunication facilities for the collection of data and distribution of products were essential.

25. The expert group meeting discussed the proposed applications development component of ACMAD and its activities. The technical requirements would,

among others relate to the archiving of all historical and present data, provision of uniform data format ensuring efficient data/product exchange on existing GTS system and assist in defining new requirements. It will carry out operational functions such as forecasting yield for crops, identification of appropriate methodologies for operational purposes, determination of meteorological conditions for the [illegible]e of migratory pests and diseases, monitoring of continental drought and climatic anomalies. It will conduct specialized application-oriented short-term courses. Applied research should be carried out to further the objectives of the Centre and, as such, facilitate and participate in identifying problem areas which require urgent consideration on a continental scale in climatology, agro-meteorology and in hydro-meteorology.

26. The expert group meeting discussed the activities and outputs of the meteorological/climatological watch system for Africa to be developed by ACMAD. The system will prepare for dissemination and for digital archiving the following operational analysis and monitoring products as well as prognosis and assessment of predication on a continent-wide basis:

(a) Daily climatological bullatins on temperature, precipitation and soil moisture;

(b) Daily continental synoptic analysis of weather data collected at regular intervals, as well as weather prognosis for 24, 48 and 72 hours;

(c) Daily continental analysis of significant weather, climate and meteorological structures relating to rain-producing systems (parameters for rainfall and cloudiness, moisture and heatflux fields); and

(d) Weekly, monthly, seasonal continental climate monitoring products and outlooks relating to tropical meteorological analysis and prediction.

27. The meeting considered the function of the proposed numerical analysis and prediction development division to be developed by ACMAD in the transfer and application of numerical methods for conventional and satellite data assimilation, derivation of diagnostic, dynamic and kinematic fields from model grid point analysis and prediction, and quantitative precipitation (and other weather elements) analysis and prediction by physical, statistical and empirical methods. The meeting recommended that ACMAD should, as far as possible, use the existing facilities and improve on them to suit the African condition. The meeting noted that programme objective and output of the division will be evolutionary. ACMAD would in the first instance, relay grid point data from world centres and distribute them after appropriate adaptation. The meeting noted that this would lessen the requirement for onsite computing capabilities in the initial phase of implementation as was initially anticipated.

28. The meeting also considered the activities of the proposed meteorological informatics and satellite meteorology technology support unit of ACMAD which will be responsible for all aspects of informatic system support, large-scale computer processing services data management, computer communications operations electronic maintenance, satellite facilities and remote sensing laboratory. These are most critical for the operation of the Centre.

29. Organizational structure of ACMAD: The expert group meeting considered the organizational structure of ACMAD which will consist of four functional

areas as given in the paragraph 24 above. It is planned that the Centre will be run by a Director, his Deputy and two assistant Directors, shown in the organogramme in annex III. The Deputy Director will be responsible for operational activities of the Centre as well as deputizing for the Director. The meeting felt that there was a need for stringent financial control and that provision should be made for both internal and external auditing.

30. The meeting addressed the question of the interrelationship between ACMAD and the existing meteorologically-related institutions and the World Weather Watch programme (WWW) of WMO. The meeting recommended that duplication of effort should be avoided and specialized regional centres within the African region should be strongly interlinked to ACMAD to receive all necessary products from the Centre for the operational work. Furthermore, as regards the position of ACMAD in the WMO WWW system, it recommended that the ninth session of RA.I should consider the matter (see section B of this report).

31. Work programme and staff requirements: The meeting considered that a work programme and staff requirements for ACMAD were very much integrated with the internal functional organization produced as a draft organigramme for the Centre (annex III). It was agreed that a core staff of about 30 professionals and technicians was necessary for ACMAD to take off during its developmental phase of five years. During the preparatory assistance phase, WMO consultants will propose a work programme for ACMAD and draw up job descriptions for the professional and technical staff. As regards the secondment of staff from the United Nations specialized agencies, the meeting was informed of the difficulties involved unless the organizations were able to use extrabudgetary or overhead resources from technical assistance provisions. The meeting agreed that the general service support staff should be budgeted for, and not left to be provided for by the host government.

32. Materials and financial requirements: The meeting considered that a total sum of $US 11.5 million would be about adequate for the level of activity envisaged for the first five-year development phase of ACMAD in the project document. However, to make ACMAD fully operational in the first phase, additional funding would be required from donors and participating countries. The equipment listed in the full-scale project document of ACMAD would cover the operational needs of the Centre in the first phase.

33. The meeting stressed that due consideration should be given to recurring costs such as running the Centre and maintenance of facilities. The meeting was informed that fully detailed specifications of equipment required for ACMAD will be derived from the results of the joint ECA/WMO study on telecommunications in Africa to be funded by the Federal Republic of Germany, and from the report of the two consultants in the preparatory assistance project of ACMAD (RAF/86/026).

Financing of the Centre by member States and donors

34. The representative of WMO noted that African countries were at present undergoing severe financial strain due to the current social and economic crisis. In order to ensure continued financing of ACMAD, WMO was of the opinion that member States should contribute to the Centre through an intergovernmental organization such as the OAU. He cited as examples the AGRHYMET centre and the ASECNA training schools whose operations are financed by the contributions of member States through the parent intergovernmental

organizations, namely CILSS and ASECNA respectively. Considering the present economic difficulties encountered, WMO would suggest that the take-off of ACMAD could be ensured provided sufficient external support were made available to the Centre in the initial five-year period. The members, however, should provide their full commitment to the Centre from the start and progressively increase their contribution.

35. The representative of ECA noted that financing was the most critical problem facing all the ECA-sponsored institutions at the initial phase because of foreign exchange problems. Generally, the level of contribution was based on a modified OAU formula agreed upon at the ECA Conference of Ministers whenever the matter was being considered.

36. The meeting agreed that an ECA/WMO study on the financing scheme of the Centre should be carried out as soon as possible in time for submission to the appropriate ECA bodies. This was necessary to ensure an uninterrupted flow of products from the Centre when member States begin to depend on the meteorological outputs for economic development.

37. The representative of the United Kingdom's Overseas Development Administration (ODA) said he could not commit his Government at this stage; however, he expressed strong interest to assist the Centre's training programme and to allow access to computer facilities, provided the organization of the Centre was meeting the objectives of ACMAD in a cost-effective way.

38. He recommended that the social and economic benefits of ACMAD should be clearly spelt out to the politicians and decision-makers with regard to the present economic and social crisis in Africa. Finally, he mentioned that ECA/WMO contact other potential donors such as the World Bank which was developing a programme on agricultural research in Africa for food self-sufficiency.

39. The representative of UNDP stated that his organization has not committed itself to finance the project. However, he reconfirmed the interest of the Regional Bureau for Africa in the concept, which has already been shown by funding the preparatory assistance phase of the project.

40. The representative of ECA informed the meeting that a proposal for funding ACMAD was submitted by ECA to UNDP under its fourth regional programming cycle. Decision on the selection of the proposals for UNDP funding will be taken by the ECA Conference of Ministers at their extraordinary session on 13 and 14 October 1986. The expert group meeting expressed the hope that a positive response will be received on this proposal for UNDP to fund ACMAD. However, it was noted that potential host countries must indicate their willingness to underwrite the capital and other costs of establishing the Centre before the final decision can be made.

41. The meeting expressed its gratitude to the ODA and UNDP for their continuing interest and support to ACMAD during the preparatory assistance phase.

(d) Implementation of ECA resolution 540(XX) on the WMO regional telecommunications system

42. Operative paragraph 4 of ECA resolution 585(XXI) inter alia requests the Executive Secretary of ECA in co-operation as appropriate with the

Secretary-General of WMO and the Secretary-General of the OAU to report to the Commission at its twenty-second session on the implementation of paragraph 3 of resolution 540 (XX) of 29 April 1985, on the WMO regional telecommunications system.

43. To implement resolution 540 (XX), ECA/WMO jointly initiated a project entitled "study on the African section of the global telecommunications system (GTS) of the World Weather Watch (WWW) programme". The project was funded by the Federal Republic of Germany in 1986 for one year, during which ECA/WMO/FRG joint survey missions visited selected African countries to assess the difficulties experienced by the national telecommunications systems and the meteorological departments for the transmission and exchange of meteorological data and weather information.

44. It is to be noted that ECA/WMO is undertaking the feasibility study on the regional telecommunications system in Africa as the primary mechanism by which ACMAD will collect meteorological data and information and distribute the products to national and regional meteorological centres in Africa as well as to global centres in neighbouring regions (India, Europe, USA and West Asia). ACMAD will function within the context of WMO's World Weather Watch (WWW) which is a global programme involving the collection of meteorological data at numerous observing sites, data processing by numerical analysis (computers), and the distribution and exchange of products through the global telecommunications system (GTS).

45. The interest in the activities of WMO global telelcommunications system is related to the role telecommunications can play in facilitating the exchange of observational data and processed meteorological information within a country, and between African countries and the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) wherever it is located. The ninth session of WMO Regional Association I (RA.I) (Africa) held in Harare, Zimbabwe in December 1986 identified the following problems, constraints and difficulties for the effective use of the global telecommunications system (GTS) in implementing the World Weather Watch (WWW) programme in Africa, namely:

(a) It was noted that 19 out of the 89 circuits called for in the RA.I (Africa) telecommunications plan were not yet established for the regional meteorological telecommunications network (RMTN);

(b) The planned loop of circuits connecting regional telecommunications hubs (RTHs) (Algiers, Cairo, Dakar and Nairobi) has only been completed between Algiers-Cairo and Algiers-Dakar. The Nairobi-Dakar and Nairobi-Cairo links as well as those from other RTHs (Brazzaville, Lusaka, Kano, Antananarivo) to the loop have still to be connected by satellite link;

(c) There is a serious lack of exchange of meteorological information between East and West Africa on the main regional circuits;

(d) On the automation of telecommunications centres for the reception of messages, sorting and retransmission or for local editing of such messages, most RTHs (Algiers, Brazzaville, Dakar, Nairobi and Niamey) but only a few NMCs are automated. RTH Casablanca plans to be automated by end 1986 and RTH Cairo in 1987;

(e) Only about half of the expected synoptic and temperature observational data collected at regular times daily at national meteorological centres (NMCs) are available at the centre of the main telecommunication

network six to twelve hours following the hour of observation. This delay is an embargo for real time data-processing in weather forecasting on a continental basis for Africa;

(f) The number of silent stations in which observational data are practically not available on the global telecommunications systems, is about 37 per cent in the African region;

(g) It was pointed out that these same difficulties experienced in RA.I (Africa) in the exchange of data for the World Weather Watch programme using the regional meteorological telecommunications network (RMTN) were also experienced by the CILSS member States in the exchange of AGRHYMET data;

(h) Although WMO provides technical assistance to countries in RA.I (Africa) for the purchase of meteorological equipment, there was a serious gap in the maintenance of such equipment, the provision of spare parts and the training of technicians for maintenance service, especially in anglophone countries.

46. In view of the above, the ninth session of RA.I (Africa) proposed several measures to solve the difficulties in order to improve the operation of the regional meteorological telecommunications network (RMTN). The measures recommended include harmonization of equipment, upgrading transmission speed, more automation of circuits and carrying out of studies to make use of new technology in the RMTN network such as personal computers in each national meteorological services, and METEOSAT satellite links for data collection and dissemination.

47. Under the voluntary co-operation project, two teams of ECA/WMO/FRG consultants are now visiting (a) Kenya, Nigeria, Ghana, and Sierra Leone; and (b) Zaire, the Congo, Guinea and Senegal on the above feasibility study during January-February 1987. A report on the implementation of the project with the recommendations of the joint missions will be submitted in the addendum to this document for the ECA Conference of Ministers.

(e) Recommendations on ACMAD made at ECA and WMO intergovernmental bodies

48. Two intergovernmental bodies are involved in the establishment of the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) as a joint activity between ECA and WMO. The intergovernmental bodies are (a) the ECA Joint Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and Environment; and (b) the WMO Regional Association I (Africa) [WMO RA.I (Africa)].

49. The WMO Regional Association I (Africa) consists of the permanent representatives (PRs) of member States of WMO in the African region. Most permanent representatives are directors of national meteorological services or heads of related departments such as civil aviation, transportation or communications, which may have control over the meteorological services in a country. The WMO RA.I (Africa) is one of six such subsidiary bodies of WMO representing the different regions of the world. It meets once every four years.

50. The ninth session of the WMO Regional Association I (Africa) at which a comprehensive review of all WMO programmes, their implementation and future

planning for the Africa region were discussed by the WMO permanent representatives for Africa adopted resolution 25/RA.I(IX) on the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD). A copy of the resolution is attached as annex IV to this report.

51. As a result of the discussions at the meeting, WMO RA.I (Africa) endorsed the long-term objectives of ACMAD to contribute towards the socio-economic development of Africa in order to attain self-sufficiency in food production energy and in water resources management as well as to assist the national meteorological services in developing manpower capabilities for the applications and use of meteorological and climatological data. The RA.I (Africa) meeting also endorsed the proposed four functional areas, the work programme and staff requirements and the organizational structure of ACMAD worked out by the two WMO consultants who were contracted for the implementation of the preparatory assistance phase of ACMAD under project RAF/86/026. The draft report of the two WMO consultants was made available to the ninth session of the WMO Regional Association I (Africa).

52. The Regional Association I stressed that the attention of the ECA Conference of Ministers meeting in April 1987 should be drawn to the necessity for the technical criteria for the location of ACMAD to be fully complied with for its successful implementation. The intergovernmental body requested ECA and WMO to forward the technical criteria to potential host countries, with follow-up missions as necessary, in order to provide the ECA Conference of Ministers with all the details required on the existing facilities to enable an objective decision to be taken on the location of ACMAD. On its relationship with existing institutions such as AGRHYMET in Niamey, drought monitoring centres and regional meteorological centres in Africa within the World Weather Watch programme, ACMAD will be a continental centre of excellence linking the global centres to all regional centres in Africa to make use of meteorological products on a continent-wide basis.

53. On the financing of the Centre, RA.I (Africa) noted that even though several donors (UNDP, ODA of the United Kingdom and the World Bank) were interested in ACMAD, it was necessary for participating countries to start contributing to the funding of the Centre. The Association noted that it was the role of its members to sensitize their respective governments on the financial requirements as well as to ensure the willingness of potential host countries to underwrite the capital and recurrent costs for operating ACMAD.

54. Finally, the WMO Regional Association I (Africa) examined the draft Constitution of ACMAD, noted its contents and urged its members to take the necessary steps to ensure their full participation by meeting their obligations once the Centre was established. The Association then adopted its resolution 25/RA.I(IX) attached to this document as annex IV, expressing its full support for ACMAD, deciding that the WMO ad hoc subregional group continue to assist WMO and ECA in carrying out the preparatory activities of ACMAD, and that the Secretary-General of WMO and the Executive Secretary of ECA consult with member States interested in hosting ACMAD with a view to providing the next meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers with all the necessary information on the available technical infrastructure, for an objective decision to be taken on the location of the Centre ACMAD. The responses from potential host countries under this resolution form section B of this document as an addendum.

55. In order to complete this section E, the recommendations of the ECA Joint Intergovernmental Committee will be submitted as an addendum to this report after the fourth meeting in February 1987.

Annex I

DRAFT CONSTITUTION OF THE AFRICAN CENTRE OF METEOROLOGICAL APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT (ACMAD)

WHEREAS by its resolution 540 (XX) the Conference of Ministers of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa on behalf of the member States of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, resolved that an African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development should be established for the purpose of improving the understanding of atmospheric and climatic processes over Africa, collecting, analyzing and disseminating meteorological and hydrological information, providing a meteorological watch and early warning system over Africa and promoting the training of African scientists and technicians in the application of meteorology for development;

WHEREAS practical and useful actions can presently be taken to alleviate the effects of drought and of other atmospheric phenomena by applying methodologies based on a thorough knowledge of the impact of meteorological factors on food production, on the availability of water resources and on new and renewable sources of energy;

WHEREAS by the said resolution 540 (XX) the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development is to be operated with the support of the member States of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and of the World Meteorological Organization;

AND WHEREAS by virtue of the said resolution 540 (XX) the member States of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa have agreed to establish the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development for the purpose and in the manner set out in the preceding paragraphs;

NOW THEREFORE and on behalf of the member States of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, **IT IS HEREBY AGREED AS FOLLOWS:**

ARTICLE 1

Establishment and membership of the Centre

1. The African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (hereinafter referred to as "the Centre"), is hereby established.

2. The member States of the Centre shall be the member States of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (hereinafter referred to as "the member States").

ARTICLE 2

Objectives and functions of the Centre

1. The objectives of the Centre shall be:

(a) To promote and develop the application of meteorological data and information so as to enhance the economic and social development of the member States, assist in the investigation and mitigation of the effects of weather phenomena, improve the knowledge of the anomalies of the weather and climate

of the member States and foster the proper conservation of the natural resources of the member States;

(b) To assist the member States to achieve self-sufficiency in food production, water resources management, and utilization of new and renewable sources of energy;

(c) To act as an African Centre of Excellence in meteorology and its application to development, and as a resource centre to stimulate applied scientific research, especially in tropical meteorology and in rain-producing systems, and to enrich existing training and development programmes;

(d) To strengthen national weather services to enable them to take full advantage of development opportunities offered by the Centre in support of the respective national economies in order to ensure the total development of the whole meteorological system of the Africa region in a harmonious manner;

(e) To develop those aspects of meteorology which are not catered for by the national and subregional centres, particularly in the areas of acquiring and adapting agro-meteorological techniques successfully applied elsewhere in aid of self-sufficiency in food production and energy; and to address the many pressing issues of drought and other climate/weather-related disasters (such as floods, cyclones, storms, hurricanes, and pest outbreak).

2. For the purposes set out in paragraph 1 of this Article, the Centre shall, in particular, perform the following functions:

(a) Strengthen the capabilities in the application and use of meteorological/climatological data;

(b) Provide a meteorological/climatological early warning watch system based on the state-of-the-art for analysis and prediction;

(c) Develop new and practical methodologies for meteorological applications in order to:

(i) reduce variability and risk of losses in food crop production;

(ii) reduce costs and energy inputs in food crop production;

(iii) increase production and strengthen food security;

(iv) improve water resources management, especially in drought-prone and drought-stricken areas;

(v) Develop alternative renewable sources of energy;

(vi) provide a better understanding of the atmospheric conditions prevailing in the Africa region which affect critical human activities;

(d) To perform on a continental scale to bridge the gaps between subregional and national units through supporting activities in applications development, meteorological/climatological watch operations, numerical analysis

and prediction development, and in informatics and satellite meteorology technology in order to identify and solve urgent regional climatic problems;

(e) The archiving of all historical and current data, provision of uniform data format, ensuring of efficient data/product exchange on existing Global Telecommunications System (GTS) and assist in defining new requirements;

(f) Provide regularly appropriate forecast of crop yields, identify appropriate methodologies for operational proposals, and meteorological conditions for the occurrence of migratory pests and diseases, and monitoring of continental drought and climatic anomalies;

(g) Provide training, including the organization of workshops, seminars, training missions, etc. for African scientists and technicians in the applications of meteorological data and information to economic and social development;

(h) Undertake research for the better understanding of the atmospheric and climatic processes which cause rains, drought, tropical cyclones and floods, storms and other significant meteorological phenomena; and

(i) Undertake such other activities as may be designed to further the objectives of the Centre.

ARTICLE 3

Headquarters of the Centre

1. The headquarters of the Centre shall be determined by the Conference of Ministers of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (hereinafter referred to as "the Conference of Ministers").

2. The Centre shall enter into an agreement with the host government of the member State where the headquarters of the Centre shall be established concerning the provision and grant, as the case may be, by the former of such adequate premises, facilities and services and privileges and immunities as may be required.

ARTICLE 4

Organs of the Centre

The Centre shall have the following organs:

(a) A board of governors;

(b) The general directorate; and

(c) Such other technical, scientific, financial and administrative bodies as may be necessary for the efficient discharge of its functons.

ARTICLE 5

The board of governors: composition, functions and meetings

1. The board of governors shall be the supreme policy-making organ of the Centre.

2. The board of governors shall be composed as follows:

(a) The Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (hereinafter referred to as "the Executive Secretary") who shall be ex-officio Chairman of the board of governors during an initial phase after which a Chairman who shall be elected from among the members of the board representing the member States);

(b) The Vice-Chairman who shall be elected from among the members of the board representing the member States;

(c) A representative each of two member States from each of the five subregions of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa selected by the Conference of Ministers, each such representative shall be selected on the basis of his [illegible] expertise and experience in meteorology;

(d) A representative of the Government of the (host country);

(e) A representative of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), without the right to vote;

(f) A representative of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), without the right to vote;

(g) Representatives of international organizations or institutions interested in the activities of the Centre such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), by invitation of the board of governors without the right to vote;

(h) Donor agencies and eminent experts may also attend meetings of the board of governors by invitation of the board as observers without the right to vote.

3. The Director-General of the Centre shall act as Secretary of the board of governors.

4. In selecting the members of the board of governors referred to in subparagraph (c) of paragraph 2 of this Article, the Conference of Ministers shall have regard to the necessity of maintaining a fair geographical distribution of selection among the member States.

5. The members of the board of governors selected under subparagraph (c) of paragraph 2 of this Article shall hold office for a period of four years and may be eligible for re-election provided, however, that in making selections for the first time, the Conference of Ministers shall direct that one-half of the member States selected by them shall retire two years after

they have been selected and shall be replaced by the same number of member States selected by the Conference of Ministers for the purpose.

6. The members of the board of governors referred to in subparagraph (c) of paragraph 2 of this Article, shall be persons who are competent and experienced in the activities of the Centre.

7. The board of governors shall:

(a) Prescribe the general principles and policies governing the operations of the Centre and give directives of a general nature as to the implementation of such principles and policies;

(b) Propose the work programmes of the Centre and their corresponding budgets, subject to the approval of the Conference of Ministers;

(c) Prescribe conditions for the admission of persons to undergo training provided by the Centre;

(d) Review and approve the annual reports of the Director-General of the Centre on the activities of the Centre;

(e) Appoint professionally qualified auditors to audit the accounts of the Centre;

(f) Examine and approve the financial report and accounts of the Centre for the preceding year;

(g) Prescribe the financial, staff and other rules and regulations governing the administration of the Centre;

(h) Adopt its own rules of procedure;

(i) Determine, apart from the office of the Director-General of the Centre, the other offices of the Centre;

(j) Submit through its Chairman a report to the Joint Inter-Governmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and Environment of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (hereinafter referred to as "the Joint Committee"), for its consideration, approval and presentation to the Conference of Ministers, annual reports on the activities of the Centre;

(k) Appoint the Director-General and other senior staff of the Centre;

(l) Establish such technical, scientific, financial and administrative committees as may be necessary for the efficient discharge of the functions of the Centre;

(m) Convene periodically meetings of donors to consider the funding of the activities of the Centre; and

(n) Perform such other functions as may be necessary for the efficient discharge of the functions of the Centre.

5. The board of governors shall meet in ordinary session once a year and may hold extraordinary sessions at the request of its Chairman or of one-third of its members.

ARTICLE 6

The Chairman of the board of governors

1. The Chairman of the board of governors shall:

(a) Cause to be prepared the draft agenda of the meetings of the board of governors;

(b) Convene and preside over the meetings of the board of governors;

(c) With the approval of the board of governors, solicit financial and other resources from the United Nations and its specialized agencies or other inter-governmental organizations, non-governmental organizations governments, and other sources.

2. In the absence of the Chairman of the board of governors, the funcitons set out in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed by the Vice-Chairman.

ARTICLE 7

The general directorate

1. The general directorate shall be headed by the Director-General who shall be the Chief Executive and Administrative Officer of the Centre.

2. The Director-General of the Centre shall be appointed as provided for in this Constitution for a period of four years subject to renewal for succeeding periods of four years each.

3. The Director-General of the Centre shall act as the legal representative of the Centre.

4. Subject to such directions of a general nature as the board of governors may give, the Director-General of the Centre shall have responsibility for the planning, organization and direction of the technical activities, scientific research, training, advisory and other activities of the Centre. He shall in particular:

(a) Be responsible for the organization and administration of the Centre;

(b) Submit for consideration of the board of governors the work programmes and corresponding budgets of the Centre;

(c) Be responsible for the carrying out of the activities of the Centre in accordance with the approved work programmes and corresponding budgets of the Centre;

(d) Submit for the approval of the board of governors annual reports on the activities and the accounts of the Centre;

(e) Subject to the staff and administrative rules and regulations of the Centre and to such directions as the board of governors may give, select and appoint staff other than those provided for under subparagraph (k) of paragraph 7 of Article 5 of this Constitution;

(f) Establish and maintain such contacts with governments, the United Nations and its specialized agencies and other organizations or institutions as may be necessary or desirable for the achievement of the objectives of the Centre;

(g) Undertake such other assignments or activities as may be determined by the board of governors.

5. The Director-General and the other staff of the Centre shall neither seek nor accept any instructions, remunerations or gifts from any government or authority or from any source external to the Centre and shall refrain from any other action which might reflect on their position as international officials.

6. The member States undertake to respect the international character of the responsibilities of the Director-General and other staff of the Centre and not to seek to influence any of their nationals in the discharge of such responsibilities; provided that this shall not preclude the secondment to the Centre of staff by governments or organizations.

ARTICLE 8

Status, capacity, privileges and immunities

1. To enable it to achieve its objectives and perform the functions with which it is entrusted, the Centre shall possess in the territory of each member State juridical personality in international law. To these ends, the status, capacity, privileges, immunities and exemptions set forth in paragraphs 2 to 12 of this Article shall be accorded to the Centre in the territory of each member State.

2. The Centre shall for the purposes of this Constitution have the capacity:

(a) To enter into contracts;

(b) To acquire and dispose of immovable or movable property; and

(c) To institute legal proceedings.

3. The Centre, its property and assets shall enjoy immunity from every form of legal process except insofar as in any particular case it has, through the Director-General of the Centre, expressly waived its immunity:

Provided however that no measure of execution shall be taken against the property and assets of the Centre without the consent of the Director-General of the Centre.

4. The headquarters of the Centre shall be inviolable. The property and assets of the Centre shall be immune from search, requisition, confiscation, expropriation, and any other form of interference whether by executive, administrative, judicial or legislative action.

5. The archives of the Centre, and in general all documents belonging to it or held by it, shall be inviolable.

6. The Centre, its property, assets, income and transactions shall be exempt from all taxation and from customs duties and prohibitions and restrictions on imports and exports necessary for the exercise of its functions. The Centre however shall not be exempt from the payment of charges for services rendered.

7. The members of the board of governors and representatives of the member States who are not otherwise officials of the United Nations or of the specialized agencies of the United Nations, shall enjoy such privileges and immunities as are provided for mutatis mutandis by Article IV of the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations.

8. The staff of the Centre who are not otherwise officials of the United Nations or of the specialized agencies of the United Nations shall enjoy such privileges and immunities as are provided for by Article V of the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations.

9. Without prejudice to the foregoing provisions, the member States undertake to accord to all representatives of the member States, all the staff of the Centre and experts providing advice or assistance to the Centre, such facilities and courtesies as are necessary for the exercise of their functions in connection with the Centre.

10. The Director-General of the Centre shall have the right and duty to waive the immunity of any staff of the Centre who is not an official of the United Nations or of a specialized agency of the United Nations, in cases where in his opinion the immunity would impede the cause of justice and can be waived without prejudice to the interests of the Centre.

11. All persons undergoing training or taking part in a scheme for the exchange of personnel at the Centre in pursuance of the provisions of this Constitution and who are not nationals of the member States concerned, shall have the right of entry into, sojourn in, transit through and exit from the territory of each member State when such entry, sojourn, transit or exit is necessary for their assignment. They shall be granted facilities for speedy travel; visas, where required, shall be granted promptly and free of charge.

12. The Centre shall co-operate at all times with the appropriate authorities of the member States to facilitate the proper administration of justice, secure the observance of national laws and prevent the occurrence of any abuse in connection with the privileges, immunities and facilities mentioned in this Article.

ARTICLE 9

Obligations of member States

The member States shall co-operate in every way so as to assist the Centre in achieving its objectives. They shall in particular:

(a) Facilitate the timely collection, exchange and dissemination of climatic and meteorological data and information;

(b) Submit such reports, data and information as may be required by the competent organs of the Centre;

(c) Make available to the Centre training and research facilities on such terms and conditions as may from time to time be agreed with the appropriate organs of the Centre;

(d) Make available to the Centre national personnel on such conditions as may be agreed upon with the appropriate organs of the Centre;

(e) Pay their annual contributions as assessed by the Conference of Ministers; and

(f) Accord such facilities, privileges and immunities as may be required under the provisions of Article 8 of this Constitution.

ARTICLE 10

Assistance by the secretariats of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and of the World Meteorological Organization

1. The secretariats of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) shall assist the Centre in every possible way in order to facilitate its work.

2. The secretariat of the WMO shall in particular have the responsibility of providing scientific and technical guidance and direction with a view to achieving the objectives of the Centre; it shall also supervise the co-ordination and co-operation of the Centre with other specialized, regional and world centres within the framework of the pertinent WMO programmes, in particular the World Weather Watch and the World Climate Programme.

ARTICLE 11

Co-operation with other organizations

The Centre shall establish such relationships with the United Nations and its specialized agencies and such other organizations and institutions as may be interested in the activities of the Centre.

ARTICLE 12

Resources of the centre

1. The Centre shall derive its finances from donors and contributions made by the member States as determined by the Conference of Ministers.

2. The Centre may derive further resources in cash or in kind from the United Nations and its specialized agencies, and such other institutions and organizations as may be interested in the activities of the Centre. Acceptance by the Centre of offers of such further assistance shall be consistent with the objectives of the Centre, subject to the provisions of this Constitution and be in accordance with the relevant provisions of the rules governing the financial management of the Centre.

ARTICLE 13

Amendments

This Constitution may, on the recommendation of the Joint Inter-Governmental Committee on Human Settlements and Environment be amended by the Conference of Ministers.

ARTICLE 14

Settlement of Disputes

Any question in dispute that may arise concerning the interpretation or application of any provision of this Constitution which cannot be settled by the parties concerned, shall be determined by the board of governors.

ARTICLE 15

Termination

1. This Constitution shall be of indefinite duration except that it may be terminated by a decision of the Conference of Ministers whereupon the Centre shall be deemed to have been dissolved.

2. In the case of the dissolution of the Centre in pursuance of the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article, the board of governors shall make provisions for the orderly liquidation of the Centre.

ARTICLE 16

Entry into force

This Constitution shall enter into force upon its adoption by the Conference of Ministers.

Annex II

HOST COUNTRY AGREEMENT

THE AFRICAN CENTRE OF METEOROLOGICAL APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE (HOST COUNTRY)

CONSIDERING that it is desirable to conclude an agreement, complementary to the Constitution of the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development to regulate questions arising as a result of the establishment of the Centre at . . . in the (host country),

HAVE AGREED as follows:

Article I

Definitions

Section 1

In this Agreement,

(a) The expression "the Centre" means the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development;

(b) The expression "the Government" means the Government of the (Host country);

(c) The expression "Executive Director" means the Executive Director of the Centre or any officer designated to act on his behalf;

(d) The expression "appropriate authorities" means such state, municipal or other authorities in (Host country) as may be appropriate in the context and in accordance with the laws and customs applicable in the (Host country) (hereinafter referred to as "Host country");

(e) The expression "headquarters seat" means:

(i) the headquarters area with building or buildings upon it, as may from time to time be defined in the supplemental agreements referred to in Section 2 of this Agreement; and

(ii) any other land or building which may from time to time be included, temporarily or permanently, therein in accordance with this Agreement or by supplemental agreement with the Government;

(f) The expression "Member Government" means a Government which is in accordance with the Constitution of the Centre the government of a member State of the Centre;

(g) The expression "officials of the Centre" means the Executive Director and all members of the staff of the Centre except those who are locally recruited on hourly or daily rates.

Article II

The headquarters seat

Section 2

(a) The permanent headquarters of the Centre shall be in the headquarters seat, and shall not be removed therefrom unless the Conference of Ministers of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (hereinafter referred to as "the Conference of Ministers") should so decide. Any transfer of the headquarters temporarily to another place shall not constitute a removal of the permanent headquarters unless there is an express decision by the Conference of Ministers to that effect;

(b) Any building in or outside of . . . which may be used with the concurrence of the Government for courses, seminars or other purposes of the Centre shall be temporarily included in the headquarters seat;

(c) The appropriate (host country) authorities shall take whatever action may be necessary to ensure that the Centre shall not be dispossessed of all or any part of the headquarters seat without the express consent of the Centre.

Section 3

The government grants to the Centre, and the Centre accepts from the Government, the permanent use and occupation of a headquarters seat as may from time to time be defined in supplemental agreements to be concluded between the Centre and the government.

Section 4

The Centre shall for official purposes have the authority to install and operate a radio sending and receiving station or stations to exchange traffic with its aircraft and field teams, subject to the provisions of Article 45 of the International Telecommunication Convention relating to harmful interference.

Section 5

The Centre may establish and operate research, documentation and other technical facilities of any type. These facilities shall be subject to appropriate safeguards which, in the case of facilities which might create hazards to health or safety or interfere with property, shall be agreed with the appropriate (Host country) authorities.

Section 6

The facilities provided for in Sections 4 and 5 may, to the extent necessary for efficient operation, be established and operated outside the headquarters area. The appropriate (Host country) authorities shall, at the request of the Centre, make arrangements on such terms and in such manner as may be agreed upon by supplemental agreement for the acquisition or use of the Centre of appropriate premises for such purposes and for the inclusion of such premises in the headquarters seat.

Article III

Control and protection of headquarters

Section 7

The headquarters shall be inviolable and shall be under the control and authority of the Centre as provided for in this agreement.

Section 8

(a) Officers or officials of (Host country) whether administrative, judicial, military or police, shall not enter the headquarters to perform any official duties therein except with the consent of and under conditions agreed by the Executive Director;

(b) Without prejudice to the provisions of the Constitution of the Centre, the Centre shall prevent the Headquarters from becoming a refuge for persons who are avoiding arrest under any law of (Host country) or who are required by the Government for extradiction to another country or who are endeavouring to avoid service of legal process.

Section 9

(a) The appropriate (Host country) authorities shall exercise due diligence to ensure that the tranquility of the Headquarters is not disturbed by the unauthorized entry of group of persons from outside or by disturbance in its immediate vicinity, and shall cause to be provided on the boundaries of the Headquarters such police protection as is required for these purposes;

(b) If so requested by the Executive Director, the appropriate (Host country) authorities shall provide a sufficient number of police for the preservation of law and order in the Headquarters, and for the removal therefrom of persons as requested under the authority of the Executive Director.

Article IV

Status of the Centre

Section 10

(a) The Centre, as an intergovernmental body operated under the aegis of the Economic Commission for Africa shall have in (Host country), the capacity to contract, to acquire and dispose of immovable or movable property and to institute legal proceedings;

(b) The Centre, its property and assets, shall enjoy immunity from every form of legal process, except insofar as in any particular case it has expressly waived its immunity. It is however understood that no waiver of immunity shall extend to any measure of execution;

(c) The property and assets of the Centre shall be immune from search requisition, confiscation, expropriation and any other form of interference whether by executive, administrative, judicial or legislative action;

(d) The archives of the Centre, and in general all documents belonging to it or held by it, wherever located, shall be inviolable;

(e) The Centre, its property, assets, income and transactions shall be exempt from all taxation and from customs duties and prohibitions and restrictions on imports and exports in respect of articles imported or exported by the Centre for its official use. The Centre shall also be exempt from any obligation relating to payment, withholding or collection of any tax or duty.

Article V

Communications and transport

Section 11

The Centre shall enjoy for its official communications treatment not less favourable than that accorded by the Government to another government or to any other intergovernmental organization, including foreign diplomatic missions in (Host country).

Section 12

(a) No censorship shall be applied to the official correspondence or other communications of the Centre. Such immunity shall extend without limitation by reason of this enumeration, to publications, documents, maps, still and moving pictures, films, sound recordings, and other scientific recordings for the work of the Centre;

(b) The Centre shall have the right to use codes and to dispatch and receive official correspondence and without limitation by reason of this enumeration, publications, documents, maps, still and moving pictures, sound recordings and other scientific recordings either by courier or in sealed bags which shall have the same immunities and privileges as diplomatic couriers and bags.

Article VI

Access and residence

Section 13

(a) The competent (Host country) authorities shall grant to the following persons the right of entry, sojourn in, transit through and exit from the territory of (Host country) when such entry, sojourn, transit or exit is necessary for the proper performance of their functions;

(i) members of the board of governors of the Centre and their spouses;

(ii) officials of the Centre and their families;

(iii) persons other than officials of the Centre performing missions for the Centre and their spouses;

(iv) other persons invited to the Headquarters on official business; the Executive Director shall communicate the names of such persons to the Government;

(v) participants in training programmes, personnel exchange schemes and meetings organized by the Centre; and

(vi) trainees and exchange personnel who are not nationals of (Host country);

They shall be granted facilities for speedy travel; visas where required shall be granted promptly and free of charge;

(b) This section shall not apply to general interruption of transport and shall not impair the effectiveness of general applicable law and regulations as to the operation of means of transportation;

(c) This section shall not imply exemption from the obligation to produce reasonable evidence to establish that persons claiming the rights granted under this section are included in categories specified in paragraph (a) of this section nor from the reasonable application of quarantine and health regulations.

Article VII

Members of the board of governors

Section 14

Those members of the board of governors of the Centre who are representatives of their member States shall be entitled in the territory of (Host country) while exercising their functions and during their journey to and from the headquarters to the same privileges and immunities as are provided for mutatis mutandis by Article IV of the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations.

Article VIII

Officials of the centre

Section 15

Officials of the centre shall enjoy in the territory of (Host country) the following privileges and immunities:

(a) Immunity from legal process in respect of words spoken or written and all acts performed by them in their official capacity, such immunity to continue notwithstanding that the persons concerned may have ceased to be officials of the Centre;

(b) Immunity from personal arrest or detention;

(c) Immunity from seizure of their personal and official baggage;

(d) Exemption from taxation on the salaries and emoluments paid to them by the Centre provided that this shall not apply to any (Host country) national;

(e) Immunity from national service obligations;

(f) Immunity, together with members of their families and their personal employees, from immigration restrictions and alien registration;

(g) The same privileges in respect of exchange facilities as are accorded to the officials of comparable ranks forming part of diplomatic missions to the Government;

(h) The same repatriation facilities in the time of international crisis, together with members of their families and their personal employees, as diplomatic envoys;

(i) Exemption from officials, other than (Host country) nationals and permanent foreign residents of (host country) from any form of direct taxation on income derived from sources outside (host country) and the freedom to maintain within (Host country), or elsewhere, foreign securities, and other movable and immovable property, and whilst employed by the Centre in (Host country) and at the time of termination of such employment, the right to take out of (host country) funds in (non-host country) currencies without any restrictions or limitations, provided that the said officials can show good cause for their lawful possession of such funds; and

(j) The right to import, free of duty and other levies, prohibitions and restrictions on imports, their furniture and effects within twelve months after taking up their post in (Host country); the same regulations shall apply for other than (Host country) nationals and permanent foreign residents of (Host country) in the case of importation, transfer and replacement of automobiles, as are in force for the resident members of diplomatic missions of comparable rank.

Section 16

Officials of the United Nations or specialized agencies of the United Nations performing functions in connection with the Centre shall respectively enjoy the privileges and immunities provided for under the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations and the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of the specialized agencies.

Section 17

All officials of the Centre shall be provided with a special identity card certifying that they are officials of the Centre enjoying the privileges and immunities specified in this Agreement.

Section 18

The privileges and immunities accorded by Section 15 are granted in the interest of the Centre and not for the personal benefit of the individuals themselves. The Executive Director shall have the right and duty to waive the immunity of any member of staff of the Centre who is not an official of the United Nations or of a specialized agency in cases where, in his opinion, such immunity would impede the course of justice and can be waived without prejudice to the interest of the Centre.

Section 19

The Centre shall co-operate at all times with the appropriate authorities of (Host country) to facilitate the proper administration of justice, secure the observance of police regulations and prevent the occurrence of any abuse in connection with the privileges and immunities and facilities mentioned in this Article.

Article IX

Public utilities, capital and other costs and housing

Section 20

(a) The appropriate (Host country) authorities shall exercise to the extent requested by the Executive Director the powers which they possess with respect to the supply of public services to ensure that the headquarters shall be supplied on equitable terms with the necessary public services including electricity, water, gas, post, telephone, telegraph, transportation, drainage, collection of refuse, fire protection, et cetera. In case of any interruption or threatened interruption of such services, the appropriate (Host country) authorities shall consider the needs of the Centre as being of equal importance with the similar needs of essential agencies of the Government, and will take steps accordingly to ensure that the work of the Centre is not prejudiced;

(b) The Government undertakes to underwrite the capital and other costs necessary for the establishment and operation of the Centre;

(c) The Government shall provide suitable housing accommodation at reasonable rental to the international staff of the Centre on request from the Executive Director.

Article X

Training aids

Section 21

The Government shall designate in agreement with the Centre, a suitable area for use by the Centre for the purpose of training in meteorological applications.

Section 22

The Government shall arrange for its technical and research institutions, universities and other higher educational institutions to extend their full co-operation to the Centre including the organization of field studies, demonstration sessions, special lectures, et cetera for students.

Section 23

(a) The Government shall allow aircraft operated by or for the Centre to make flights into, over and out of its territory for the purpose of training and meteorological surveys. Such aircraft shall be exempt from all charges except those for actual services rendered, and from fees or taxes incidental

to the landing at, parking on or taking off from any aerodrome in (Host country). The crew of such aircraft shall be immune from legal process with respect to acts performed by them in their official capacity. Without prejudice to the pertinent provisions of Article 4 of this Agreement, the aircraft shall be immune within (Host country) from search, seizure, requisition, confiscation, expropriation and any other form of interference whether by executive, administrative, judicial or legislative action:

Provided that in its operation of aircraft the Centre shall ensure the observance of all laws and regulations including those relating to the maintenance and operation of aircraft, applicable in (Host country);

(b) The Centre shall maintain, or cause to be maintained, adequate insurance against the risks of damage to aircraft owned by or operated for the Centre, as well as liability for personal injury, death or damage to property of third parties arising in connection with the operation of such aircraft.

Article XI

Interpretation and application

Section 24

The provisions of the Constitution of the Centre and of this Agreement shall, where they relate to the same subject matter, be treated wherever possible as complementary, so that the provisions of both shall be applicable and neither shall narrow the effect of the other; but in any case of absolute conflict, the provisions of this Agreement shall prevail.

Section 25

The Government and the Centre may enter into such supplemental agreements as may be necessary to fulfil the purposes of this Agreement. Wherever this Agreement imposes obligations on the appropriate (Host country) authorities, the ultimate responsibility for the fulfilment of such obligations shall rest with the Government.

Section 26

This Agreement shall be interpreted in the light of its primary purpose to enable the Centre fully and efficiently to discharge its responsibilities and to fulfil its objectives.

Article XII

Section 27

This Agreement may be modified by agreement between the two contracting parties and each party shall give full and sympathetic consideration to any request for such modification.

Article XIII

Settlement of disputes

Section 28

Any dispute between the Centre and Government concerning the interpretation or application of this Agreement or of any supplemental agreement which is not settled by negotiation or other agreed mode of settlement shall be referred for final decision to the Conference of Ministers.

Article XIV

Section 29

This Agreement and any supplemental agreement entered into between the Government and the Centre within the scope of its terms of reference, shall cease to be in force two years after either of the Contracting Parties shall have given notice in writing to the other of its decision to terminate this Agreement, except as regards those provisions which may apply to normal cessation of the activities of the Centre in (Host country) and the disposal of its property.

Section 30

This Agreement shall come into force upon signature.

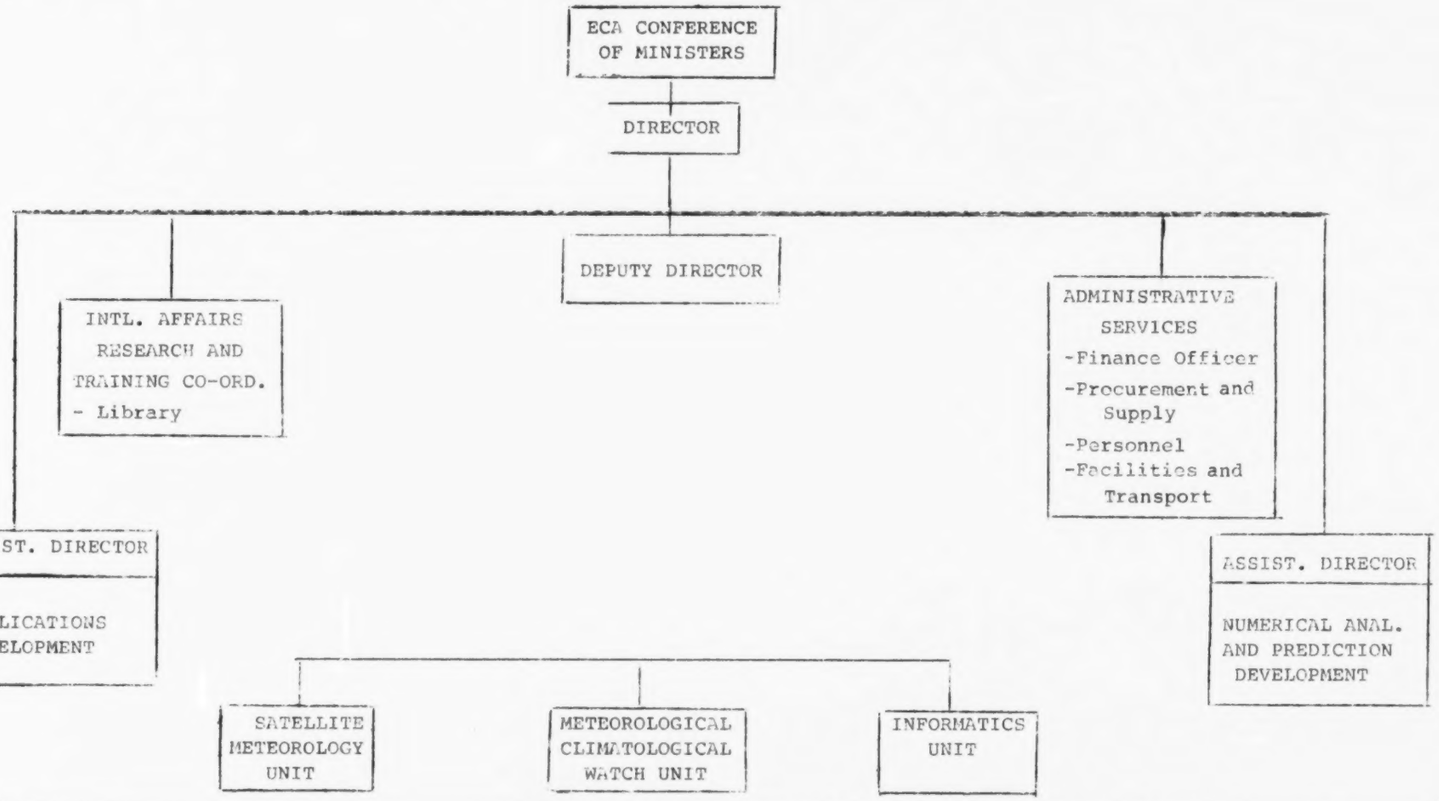
DONE in the English language in duplicate at . . . . . on . . . . . .

For the Government of the
(Host country)

For the African Centre of Meteorological
Applications for Development

Annex III

ORGANIGRAMME FOR THE AFRICAN CENTRE OF METEOROLOGICAL APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT
(A C M A D)



Abstracted from WMO document IX-RA-I/Doc.39 Add.1 Appendix.

Annex IV

Draft resolution

Res. 25/RA.I(IX): African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD)

The Regional Association I for Africa,

Considering the devastating impact of the prolonged drought on the economies of several African countries which has led to famine and hunger affecting several millions of people,

Noting that the process of desertification is progressing at a steady pace and affecting millions of hectares of productive arable lands,

Noting with satisfaction that the ECA Conference of Ministers has adopted several resolutions related to measures to combat drought and desertification in African countries, and in particular resolution 540(XX) in which it decided that an African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) should be established,

Noting also with satisfaction that the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has provided funding for the preparatory assistance activities for the establishment of ACMAD which have been carried out by the ECA and WMO secretariats with the assistance of an ad hoc group composed of representatives from members of the Association,

Considering that the establishment of such a Centre would greatly contribute to the development of the national capabilities to handle and apply meteorological and hydrological data and information to critical activities such as agriculture, food production, energy and water resources management,

1. Expresses its full support to the ECA Conference of Ministers for the establishment of the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development;

2. Urges the members of the Association to actively support the proposed activities of the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development;

3. Decides that the ad hoc group established during the second Technical Conference on the Management of Meteorological Services in Africa held in Bujumbura, Burundi in November 1985, be entrusted with assisting the WMO and ECA secretariats in carrying out the preparatory activities of ACMAD until they are completed;

4. Requests the Secretary-General of WMO and the Executive Secretary of ECA to consult with the members interested in hosting ACMAD with a view to providing the next ECA Conference of Ministers with all the necessary information on the available technical infrastructure for an objective decision on the location of ACMAD;

5. Encourages the Secretary-General of WMO, in co-operation with the Executive Secretary of ECA, to take the necessary measures to ensure the regional establishment of ACMAD;

6. Requests the Secretary-General of WMO, in co-operation, as appropriate, with the Executive Secretary of ECA, to report to the tenth session of the Association on the progress made in the establishment of ACMAD.

1. Since the last session of the ECA Conference of Ministers, draft Articles of Agreement of the African Monetary Fund were prepared and submitted to the third and fourth meetings of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on the Establishment of an African Monetary Fund. Both meetings discussed extensively the issues in the draft Articles of Agreement and made remarks and observations that were subsequently incorporated into the text of the Articles of Agreement of the Fund.

2. Immediately after the fourth meeting of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts, the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, which was established by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa by its resolution 541 (XX) of 29 April 1985, held a meeting in Libreville, Gabon, from 18 to 21 June 1986 to consider proposals for the establishment of an African Monetary Fund. The Conference also examined reports of the second, third and fourth meetings of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on the Establishment of an African Monetary Fund, the Articles of Agreement of the Fund and a progress report on the preparations for the International Conference on Africa's External Indebtedness.

3. The main purpose of the Conference was to consider the issues which could not be resolved by the meetings of experts, namely (a) membership in the Fund; (b) whether or not to open the capital of the Fund to external participation and if so in what proportion; (c) whether or not payments of subscriptions by regional member States should be made in both convertible and national currencies and if so in what proportion; (d) the size of the board of executive directors of the Fund and whether or not they should be resident at the principal offices of the Fund from the date of commencement of its operations.

4. During the consideration of this issue, some delegations questioned the very idea of the establishment of an African Monetary Fund, including the size of the proposed capital. This group of countries also raised the issue as to whether or not there should be an agreement establishing the Fund to which the statutes should be annexed.

5. After a considerable debate a consensus was reached to the effect that these items should not be discussed during the present session. Instead, the Ministers decided to adopt a resolution emphasizing their commitments to the establishment of an African Monetary Fund. The resolution also established an ad hoc committee to be known as the "Committee of Libreville" whose membership would be the same as that of the bureau of the Conference, namely Gabon, Sierra Leone, Tunisia, Uganda and Zambia. However, in view of the importance of this issue, it was agreed that the Committee of Libreville should be opened so that all African countries would be invited to participate in the work of the Committee. The terms of reference of the Committee would be to speed up the establishment of an African Monetary Fund and to report to the next Conference of African Ministers of Finance. The Committee would also be responsible for considering all outstanding issues and making recommendations to the next Conference of African Ministers of Finance scheduled to be held at the end of 1987.

6. Concerning the issue on Africa's external debts, the Conference was briefed by a representative of the joint secretariat on the preparation for the proposed International Conference on Africa's External Indebtedness and the meetings of the joint secretariat responsible for the preparations of the Conference on Africa's external indebtedness, namely Organization of African Unity, Economic Commission for Africa, African Centre for Monetary Studies and African Development Bank. The Conference also took note of the meetings held by the then Chairman of OAU, President Abdou Diouf of Senegal, with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the President of the World Bank and the Managing Director of the IMF on this matter. After an exchange of views, the Conference requested the joint secretariat to continue the preparatory work it had already started.

A. Introduction

1. The sixth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of African Least Developed Countries was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 9 to 11 April 1987 in preparation for the seventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African LDCs which is scheduled to be held in Addis Ababa from 21 to 22 April, 1987. The objectives of the meeting were to: (a) review the economic and social conditions in African least developed countries in 1985-1986, with emphasis on the major development problems encountered and the policies pursued by the countries; (b) assess the progress achieved in the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action in African Least Developed Countries; (c) consider the implications of structural adjustment and stabilization programmes on long-term growth and development of African LDCs; and finally, (d) review ECA's activities from April 1986 to April 1987 and those programmed for 1988-1989 in favour of the African LDCs.

B. Attendance

2. Participating in the meeting were representatives from the following African LDCs: Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Guinea, Lesotho, Malawi, Niger, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Togo, Uganda and United Republic of Tanzania.

3. Also attending the meeting as observers were: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), International Labour Organisation (ILO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), International Trade Centre (ITC), Organization of African Unity (OAU), and European Economic Community (EEC).

C. Election of officers

4. The Committee elected the following officers:

Chairman:	Mr. John A. Tesha, United Republic of Tanzania
Vice-Chairman:	Mrs. Nima Barry, Guinea
Rapporteur:	Mr. Omar Mattar, Uganda

D. Adoption of the agenda and programme of work

5. The meeting adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening of the meeting
   - statement by the Executive Secretary of ECA.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
4. Review of economic and social conditions in African Least Developed Countries, 1985-1986.
5. Progress towards the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action in African Least Developed Countries.

6. The implications of structural adjustment and stabilization programmes for long-term growth and development in African Least Developed Countries.

7. Review of ECA activities from April 1986 to April 1987, those programmed for the remainder of 1987 and work programme for 1988-1989 in favour of the African Least Developed Countries.

8. Consideration and adoption of the report of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts.

9. Closure of the meeting.

E. Opening session

6. On behalf of the Executive Secretary of ECA, the Deputy Executive Secretary, in opening the meeting, welcomed the delegates and expressed thanks to the people and Government of Socialist Ethiopia for hosting the meeting.

7. In the substantive text of his statement, the Deputy Executive Secretary stated that the recovery which was signalled in developing Africa as a whole in 1985 had slowed down in 1986 with GDP growth rate dropping from 3.0 per cent in 1985 (at 1980 prices) to 1.2 per cent in 1986. This is largely explained by the declining growth in agricultural output which is the main source of value added in African countries. In real terms, growth of agriculture output declined from 4.1 per cent in 1985 to 2.2 per cent in 1986 which affected agro-based manufacturing activities. Value added in the manufacturing sector increased by 4.0 per cent in 1986 as compared to 5.9 per cent in 1985.

8. The international economic environment in which such growth performance had occurred had been characterized, among other things, by the collapse in prices of major commodities exported by the LDCs; a sharp deterioration in their terms of trade, an alarming decline of net inflows of external resources to developing Africa, chronic external payments difficulties and increasingly heavier debt servicing. The situation of the LDCs had been all the more precarious as the severity of their development crisis had led to the convening of the Paris Conference in September 1981 by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). The Conference had adopted the Substantial New Programme of Action (SNPA) for the Least Developed Countries for the 1980s.

9. In the context of the objectives of the SNPA with respect to the mobilization of external resources, the African LDCs had made commendable efforts in organizing 17 country review meeting, either under the UNDP Round table mechanism or World Bank consultative group meeting. And yet, aid flows had not matched expectations, nor had the achievements under the review meetings been anything but meagre. In this regard, he welcomed the National Technical Co-operation Assessments and Programmes (NATCAPs) introduced by UNDP. In his view, only through solidarity could Africa reverse these trends which was why African Governments had adopted Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER). With the support of the international community, the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD) adopted in resolution S-13-2 of 1 June 1986 during the thirteenth Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly envisages an amount of $US 29.8 billion to finance the investment programmes of the LDCs.

10. A review of the macro-economic performance of the African LDCs during 1985-1986 showed that GDP grew in real terms by 0.7 per cent in 1985 and by 4.2 per cent in 1986. This corresponded to a decline in per capita GDP growth rates of 1.9 in 1985 and increase of 1.6 per cent in 1986. The rural sector had recorded growth rates of 2.2 per cent in 1985 and 3.4 per cent in 1986. Budget deficits had increased by 55.9 per cent in 1986 as compared to 2.3 per cent in 1985 while external public debt had grown from $US 28 billion in 1985 to $US 39 billion in 1986. Finally, he stated that with or without the structural adjustment and stabilization programmes of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, African LDCs were making considerable efforts to ensure adequate economic recovery.

F. Account of proceedings

Review of economic and social conditions in African least developed countries, 1985-1986 (agenda item 4)

11. A representative of the secretariat introduced document E/ECA/LDCs.7/EXP.6/2 entitled "Review of Economic and Social Conditions in African Least Developed Countries, 1985-1986". The document was structured in two parts; the first part gave an overview of the socio-economic conditions of African LDCs as a group and analyzed trends in the major macro-economic aggregates, public finance, external trade and balance of payments. It also analyzed the policies implemented by African LDCs to ease the constraints on their economic and social development. The second part dealt with the economic and social profile of each of the 27 LDCs.

12. After recalling the unfavourable economic environment in which African LDCs had to manage their economies in 1985-1986, he then reviewed the overall macro-economic performance of African LDCs. He explained that despite a low net inflow of external resources per capita estimated at $US 29.3, 29.9, 33.9 in 1983, 1984 and 1985 respectively African LDCs managed to achieve real GDP growth rates (1980 prices) of about 0.7 per cent in 1985 and 4.2 per cent in 1986 compared to an annual average of 0.12 per cent between 1981 and 1984. That recovery was largely due to the good performance of the agricultural sector as a result of the return of normal, abundant and well distributed rainfall. Agriculture value added rose to 5.5 per cent in 1986 as against 0.5 per cent in 1985 which marked the end of the drought cycle that had spanned the 1981-1984 period.

13. In addition to favourable climatic conditions, the recovery was bolstered by: increased investments in the agricultural sectors, more efficient early warning systems which helped to contain locust attacks on crops; incentives to enhance production including the provision of support services to the rural areas in terms of improved extension services; timely delivery of agricultural inputs, flexible credit facilities, higher producer prices and the establishment of guaranteed minimum prices. Although the recovery had not wiped out the considerable food grain deficits, it had boosted almost all the other sectors of the African LDC economies particularly the manufacturing sector dominated by agro-industries; whose value added increased by 2.6 per cent. The industrial sector continued to be hampered mainly by the low import capacity of the countries which did not allow them to bring in regular and adequate supplies of raw materials, spare parts and energy products.

14. As a result of near stagnation in total consumption, the demand in African LDCs had levelled of as a result of deflationary measures adopted by the African LDCs as part of their adjustment programmes. Consequently, the average savings and investment rates were equivalent to only 5.6 and 14.3 per cent of GDP, respectively. The budget deficit of African LDCs as a group had worsened. The overall balance-of-payments deficits had increased from $US 1.47 billion in 1985 to $US 2.2 billion in 1986 mainly because of a rise in their overall trade deficit following the decline in world demand and prices of the major export commodities of African LDCs. Cotton prices had fallen by 26 per cent; cocoa by 11.2 per cent; uranium by 17.4 per cent; bauxite by 2.5 per cent and iron ore by 1.9 per cent. There was also a stagnation in net capital inflows while the current account deficit rose from $US 4.9 billion in 1985 to SUS 5.7 billion in 1986. The external payments position was worsened by the heavy external debt burden which rose from $US 28 billion in 1985 to $US 39 billion in 1986.

15. In concluding he said that the efforts that African countries had collectively made to deal with the development crisis, had led to the adoption of Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990, which, as a result of international support, had been followed-up by the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990.

16. After the introduction of the document, a delegate made comments on the estimate of the overall GDP growth rate of African LDCs in 1986 which, at 4.2 per cent was considered much higher than the 1.2 per cent growth attained by the rest of developing African countries as a whole in view of the fact that the problems of the LDCs are more precarious. He further observed that the estimated level of final consumption for Lesotho and Cape Verde, cited as examples, seemed to be too high. He also could not see any direct relationship between the drop in concessional aid flows to LDCs and their heavy indebtedness and noted that adjustments in investment programmes had been made on the basis of available resources.

17. Another delegate, while appreciating the quality of the analysis by the secretariat, observed that the document was somehow unbalanced especially in view of the little space given to sectoral analysis as compared to macro-economic evaluation since the development of productive sectors was central to the SNPA. On the basis of the debate, the Committee recommended that, in future studies, an evaluation would be made of investment policies and programmes implemented by the LDCs especially those for industrial development as well as the development of transport and communications infrastructures so as to ascertain the viability of these policies in sustaining growth. Finally, the secretariat was informed that the countries were willing to provide the necessary information to update the document.

18. In clarifying the issues raised by the meeting, a representative of the secretariat stated that certain factors need to be taken into account when comparing the overall GDP growth rate of the LDCs with that of developing Africa as whole. He pointed out that the performance of oil-exporting African countries is a major determinant of the overall growth performance of the continent as a whole and as such the decline in oil prices in 1985-1986 had resulted into considerable drop in revenue from oil exports leading to a general slow-down in economic activities in this group of countries. He explained that most LDCs economies had rebounded strongly from a long spell of drought during 1981-1984 when they recorded very low growth rates in agriculture value added. Hence, the good performance of the agricultural

sector in 1985-1986 boosted the overall growth of the LDCs since nearly 50 per cent of GDP was derived from the sector.

19. With respect to the shortcomings of the sectoral analysis, he mentioned the lack of information on some sectors and the need to produce a concise document that dealt with the basic issues. As for coverage, he drew the attention of the Committee to the financial difficulties facing the ECA secretariat and as such only 20 of the 50 African countries were visited for the 1985-1986 survey missions. Besides the secretariat's efforts in data collection, very few replies to the questionnaires it had sent to the countries were received and very limited information was received from UNDP Resident Representatives who had also been contacted in an attempt to improve the flow and quality of the information required to prepare the study.

20. In concluding its debate, the Committee requested the secretariat to maintain the present two-part format of the document, i.e., part one on overall performance and part two on country profiles but with the provision that the overall performance will be broadened to provide indepth analysis of the policies pursued, and country profiles would be made shorter in order to maintain a balance in the structure of the study. The Committee also pledged its support to provide the necessary data and information in a timely manner so as to enrich the analysis in future surveys.

Progress towards the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action in African Least Developed Countries [(E/ECA/LDCs.7/EXP.6/3)(agenda item 5)]

21. In presenting the document under the above agenda item, the representative of the secretariat stated that it was a progress report which dealt with the achievements of the African LDCs in implementing the SNPA at the national level as well as measures taken by the international community to support the programme particularly in terms of Official Development Assistance (ODA) flows and the related modalities of aid disbursement to the African LDCs. He pointed out that since the adoption of the SNPA in 1981, all African LDCs had designated focal points for the implementation, follow-up and monitoring of the SNPA. Seventeen LDCs had organized country review meetings and others are preparing to hold such meetings with their development partners.

22. The representative of the secretariat said that, despite their low per capita income levels, several African LDCs had taken concrete steps to mobilize domestic resources including the creation of a flexible tax system which is more broadly based and also improvement in tax administrations. Domestic saving rate above 10 per cent of GDP had been achieved in Comoros, Malawi, Niger and Togo and in the case of Botswana, Guinea and Lesotho, exceeding 15 per cent of GDP. He drew the attention of the meeting to the commitments of African LDCs under APPER and UN-PAAERD, which are generally consistent with the priorities and recommendations of the SNPA. In this context he appealed to the countries to take steps to launch national programmes and participate effectively in regional programmes on economic development, especially those with national implications.

23. With respect to international support measures, the representative of the secretariat stated that although there was an increase in total financial flows from $US 5.3 billion in 1984 to $US 6.1 billion in 1985, these flows fell far short of the annual external financing requirements estimated at $US 8.6 billion of the African LDCs as envisaged by the SNPA. In terms of the SNPA target of 0.15 per cent of donor GDP as ODA to the LDCs, he informed

the meeting that, on the basis of available information, only few major donors (Denmark, Netherlands, Norway and Sweden) had exceeded the target while other DAC members had not attained it by 1985. With regards to aid modalities, he pointed out that some initiatives had been taken by a number of donors to give more emphasis to programme aid including sectoral assistance, general import financing and balance-of-payments support, etc. He informed the meeting about the new format adopted by the UNDP with a view to improve the Round table mechanisms. Finally, the representative of the secretariat informed the Committee about the recent meeting of the African Ministers of Trade and Development in preparation for UNCTAD VII and stated that the recommendations of the Mid-Term Global review had been reiterated in a Declaration that will be presented to the G-77 meeting in April 1987 in Havana, Cuba.

24. During the ensuing discussions, the representative of UNESCO stated that the fundamental problem facing African LDCs is their inability to mobilize domestic resources at a time when external resource flows to these countries had dropped considerably. He pointed out that due to critical financial situation of the United Nations system, overall activities of specialized agencies had been scaled down to reflect the availability of funds. However, within the context of APPER and UN-PAAERD, UNESCO is prepared to accept requests for technical assistance supported by concrete and well defined programmes from the African LDCs, particularly with respect to science and technology and literacy. In that light, he informed the meeting that 1990 will most likely be declared as the international literacy year and urged African LDCs to intensity their efforts in eradicating illeteracy in their respective countries.

25. The representative of the International Labour Organisation said that about 44 per cent of his organisation's technical assistance funds were devoted to LDCs. In 1985, ILO had adopted a resolution on the most urgent problems of Africa and a programme of action for Africa in which special attention had been focussed on the problems of LDCs and on specific short-, medium- and long term responses proposed by ILO to strengthen its technical assistance to them as part of its mandate. The objectives of the programme of action were to assist LDCs particularly during this period of crisis in defining and implementing development policies and programmes in the areas of employment, income, vocational training, manpower management and development, the promotion of small- and medium-sized enterprises, co-operatives and rural development. In that connection, multidisciplinary technical assistance identification and programming missions had been sent to the following LDCs: Burkina Faso, the Central African Republic, Chad, Ethiopia, Mali, Mauritania, Mozamibique, the Niger and the Sudan. UNDP and other multilateral agencies had been approached in order to secure the funds needed to implement the technical co-operation projects identified in the above-mentioned countries.

26. The meeting noted that inspite of structural deficincies and extremely limited means of mobilizing adequate resources in African LDCs, the international community had not fulfilled its commitments in terms of external resources flows in support of the SNPA. The meeting acknowledged the reinforcing nature of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD) in relation to the SNPA and agreed that the measures recommended for national and international action should be expeditiously implemented in order to establish the necessary conditions for adequate recovery that would lead to self-sustained economic growth and development.

27. The meeting while taking note of the information on the New Round table format introduced by UNDP, expressed appreciation for the assistance provided by the UNDP and the World Bank in organizing their respective country review meetings. The Committee noted, however, that the mobilization of additional resources for the LDCs from traditional as well as new donors should remain the central task of country review exercises.

The implications of structural adjustment and stabilization programme on long-term growth and development in African least developed countries [(E/ECA/LDCs.7/EXP.6/4) (agenda item 6)]

28. Introducing this agenda item, a representative of the secretariat informed the meeting that the ECA had undertaken the study as a desk research project in response to the request of the sixth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African LDCs. He stated that the objective of the study was to examine the impact of structural adjustment and stabilization programmes, particularly the policy packages, on the economies of the LDCs, notably the appropriateness of conditionality clauses and the capacity of the LDCs to strictly adhere to performance criteria of IMF and/or IBRD sponsored programmes.

29. He pointed out that, based on the findings of the study, the external payments problems of the African LDCs in the 1970s and the first half of the 1980s, had been caused mainly by the inherent structural weakness in these economies, which were compounded by natural disasters (drought) and other exogenous factors such as the oil price increases in 1973/74 and 1979/80, protectionist measures of industrialized countries, deteriorating terms of trade and mounting debt obligations. Policy measures in adjustment and stabilization programmes are aimed at redressing external payments disequilibria in the short-term without addressing these root causes of the imbalances which require measures of a longer-term nature.

30. He pointed out that the efficacy of devaluation as a policy instrument in adjustment programmes has increasingly been questioned in the context of the LDCs because as primary commodity exporters, they are price takers and hence their export earnings are likely to remain the same or even reduced considerably in foreign currency terms after devaluation. He stated that the deflationary impact of fiscal policies in these programmes had further aggravated the worsening economic conditions of the African LDCs. Finally, he mentioned that there is an urgent need for the adjustment and stabilization programmes to have a balanced set of policies other than demand management and exchange rate depreciation and that the time frame for implementation should be long enough and take into account the distributional consequences on the economies of African LDCs.

31. In the ensuing discussions, the ILO representative said that the problems of unemployment, income distribution and mass poverty had not been adequately covered in the document. They were of crucial importance partly because the number of people below the poverty line and the number of unemployed had attained staggering proportions in the African LDCs. The adjustment and stabilization programmes proposed by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank did not put enough emphasis on human resources issues and the other social and cultural aspects of economic development. This was in contradiction with the priorities defined in Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery and the United Nations Programme of Action for African

Economic Recovery and Development. There was a possible divergence between the solutions proposed for Africa's economic crisis by IMF and the World Bank on the one hand and those proposed by the United Nations and OAU on the other.

32. African countries that were having problems in redeploying or placing staff who had been laid off from the civil service and state enterprises should request ILO's assistance in identifying an appropriate range of areas where such staff could be absorbed. LDCs could also ask ILO to help them in their negotiations with IMF and the World Bank so that the consequences of the adjustment and stabilization measures on employment, income and poverty could be reflected in the policies to be implemented.

33. The representative of ITC congratulated the ECA secretariat for the lucid and very comprehensive study. He highlighted the urgent need to formulate a trade development and promotion strategy for the LDCs for the medium and the long term. Such a strategy should encompass four components: (a) the incentive environment; (b) the financial institutions; (c) the instituational infrastructure; and (d) the products and markets for traditional as well as non-traditional products. He further referred to the non-availability of up-to-date information on the trade possibilities among the LDCs. He felt that concrete proposals put forward by African LDCs for technical assistance in this field would find multilateral and/or bilateral donors.

34. A delegate also congratulated the ECA secretariat for having produced an excellent and comprehensive paper. He deplored the attitude of IMF and World Bank for tying their assistance to the adoption and implementation of the adjustment and stabilization programmes. For the vast majority of African LDCs, there is a serious political constraint on further sharp cut-backs in real level of consumption, employment or the provision of services. He pointed out the IMF adjustment programmes operate in the short-run without sufficient consideration of the consequences on long-term development. However, the imbalance which lead African LDCs to seek IMF assistance are large and persistent, and therefore, the remedies applied should be concerned with long-term structural changes. He further deplored the terms and conditions set by donors for insisting to implement IMF short-term stabilization programmes before they are rated credit worthy for long-term development finance.

35. Another delegate made general comments on the document and asked whether the secretariat had read the UNICEF study as had been requested by the previous meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of African Least Developed Countries held in Yaounde in April 1986. The document did not clearly bring out the impact of the stabilization and structural adjustment programmes on the growth and development of African LDCs which had been agreed with the two agencies. The aim of the study was to make recommendations on the consequences observed in order to provide an appropriate negotiating framework for the countries that had not yet signed programme agreements with IMF and the World Bank.

36. A representative of the ECA secretariat pointed out that it is very difficult to be exhaustive and comprehensive in a short policy paper of this nature. This should not, however, mean that the issues of unemployment and income distribution have been totally ignored. Rather, an attempt has been

made to raise the most pertinent elements pertaining to the issues of unemployment and income distribution in more general terms. He stated that it is absolutely necessary for the LDCs to adequately prepare themselves to negotiate the policy measures recommended in structural adjustment programmes sponsored by the IMF and/or the IBRD. He said that if and when a country deems it necessary to request ECA's assistance in the negotiating process, means will be found to provide such expert assistance.

Review of ECA activities from April 1986 to April 1987, those programmed for the remainder of 1987 and the work programme for 1988-1989 in favour of the African Least Developed Countries (Agenda item 7)

37. A representative of the secretariat introduced document E/ECA/LDCs.7/EXP.6/5 and said that it reviewed the activities carried out by the ECA over the 12-month period following the last meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of African LDCs and also defined the general framework of the secretariat's activities for the forthcoming biennium. The Review covered both the work programme of the Socio-Economic Research and Planning Division and other substantive Divisions within the framework of the ECA Inter-Divisional Committee on LDCs. The activities are related to food and agriculture, human settlements, industrial development, international trade and natural resources. He stated that the four main areas of ECA secretariat activities in favour of the African LDCs were (a) providing technical assistance and advisory services at the request of the countries; (b) carrying out in-depth studies on development issues; (c) monitoring and follow-up of the implementation of the SNPA; and (d) servicing of the annual meetings of the Conference of Ministers of African LDCs.

38. The second part of the document listed activities carried out in favour of LDCs (Comoros, Mali, Benin, Burundi, Ethiopia, Rwanda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Togo) and in aid of UNITAR and the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development (IGADD). Part three dealt with the assistance provided by ECA substantive divisions to the countries concerned. The most important part of the document concerned the 1988-1989 biennium for which participants should make concrete proposals on the in-depth studies to be implemented. In that respect, the Committee should note the two studies planned: the study on the development and utilization of human resources in African LDCs (to be published in 1988) and the study on the financial structure and utilization of resources in African LDCs to be published in 1989.

39. Following the introduction of the document, the representative of UNESCO suggested that a task force should be established at the field level to ensure greater inter-agency co-ordination under the lead and efficient role of the ECA which will involve the mobilization of technical assistance in favour of the LDCs. He also appealed to the countries to submit concrete project proposals to United Nations agencies bearing in mind their competence in various areas of development.

40. The Committee requested the secretariat to explain the objectives of the studies proposed under the 1988-89 work programme. While acknowledging the usefulness of the proposed studies, some delegates felt that there were more pressing developmental issues that could be treated under the ECA's

special programme for the LDCs. In this context, a representative of the secretariat gave explanations on the two planned studies covering the mobilization and efficient utilization of human and financial resources in the LDCs. These issues were of crucial importance to the LDCs who possess limited resources and hence the need for efficient allocation of those resources in the development process. On the proposed inter-agency task force, the secrearíat informed the meeting that there is an inter-agency committee of organizations of the United Nations system which meets twice a year in Geneva to review their activities in the context of the SNPA.

41. The meeting discussed the proposals and recommended that due consideration be given to the establishment of an inter-agency committee at the regional level that will be composed of United Nations agencies represented at Addis Ababa to exchange information and co-ordinate their activities in favour of African LDCs. They also recommended that the in-depth studies proposed should be in relation to specific areas or sectors which is of primary importance to the LDCs.

Consideration and adoption of the report (agenda item 8)

42. The meeting considered and adopted the report after some amendments and agreed to submit it to the Seventh Meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries.

Closure of the meeting (agenda item 9)

43. The Chairman of the Sixth Meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of African Least Developed Countries thanked participants for the high level of discussions and expressed the gratitude of the Committee for the excellent facilities provided by the secretariat for the smooth conduct of the meeting.

DRAFT RESOLUTION

Measures for the effective implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action in African Least Developed Countries

The Conference of Ministers

Recalling United Nations General Assembly Resolution 40/205 of 17 December, 1985 which reaffirmed the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the least developed countries, "as the basis for continuing cooperation between the least developed countries and their development partners, as well as the commitment to the full and effective implementation of the programme" and which also endorsed the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the inter-governmental group on the least developed countries on the Mid-term Global Review of the SNPA,

Further recalling its resolution 397(XV) of 12 April 1980 entrusting the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries with the responsibility for ensuring the coordination of efforts, establishing priorities, monitoring and evaluating progress under the Comprehensive New Programme of Action and the Substantial New Programme of Action (SNPA) in African Least Developed Countries,

Recalling also the decision of the Twenty-first Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity by which the Summit adopted Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery (APPER) which was subsequently endorsed by the 13th Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly in Resolution S-31 of 1 June 1986 and elaborated in the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD),

Deeply concerned about the continued and persistent downslide in economic growth and development performance of the African least developed countries largely as a result of the deepening internal economic crises compounded by such exogenous

factors as drought, collapse in world prices for primary commodities, considerable deterioration in their terms of trade, protectionist measures of industrialized countries, and mounting debt service obligations,

Noting with satisfaction the enormous efforts made by the African LDCs to improve their economic and social conditions, especially the painful austerity measures taken which were expected to lead to adequate economic recovery as a foundation for sustained economic growth and development,

Recognizing that the African least developed countries are faced with structural deficiencies which limit their capacity to respond adequately to internally and externally induced imbalances, and their inability to acquire adequate development financing which has shrunk considerably below the targets of external funding requirements of the African LDCs as envisaged by the SNPA,

Considering that the adoption of adjustment and stabilization programmes supported by the IMF and/or IBRD had become a sine qua non for mobilizing international assistance in terms of financial flows and debt relief; and noting that the implementation of the policy measures recommended in the programmes had further distabilized the LDCs economies and led to dire social and political consequences;

Taking note of the initiative of some creditor nations in implementing UNCTAD trade and development Board Resolution 165(S-IX) on debt relief especially those donors who had provided out-right cancellation of their debt to some African LDCs and others who are making progress in alleviating the debt burden of the LDCs;

Bearing in mind that the Seventh Session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD VII) is scheduled to take place in Geneva in July 1987 and will consider the problems of the least developed countries bearing in mind the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the LDCs; and that the Addis Ababa Declaration of African Ministers responsible for trade and development preparatory to UNCTAD VII of 18 March 1987, had inter-alia, reiterated the recommendations of the Mid-term Global Review on behalf of the LDCs as part of the proposals for negotiations at the Sixth Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 in Havana (Cuba), April 1987 and at UNCTAD VII in Geneva in July, 1987,

1. Strongly urges African least developed countries to continue to assume the primary responsibility for their overall development and to intensify their economic recovery efforts through the mobilization and efficient utilization of domestic resources for the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (1986-1990) which would enhance the effective implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action,

2. Re-affirms the Substantial New Programme of Action as the basis for continued mutual cooperation between the LDCs and the international community and that the programme should be fully and effectively implemented. Donors should provide substantially enlarged volume of financial assistance in real terms to the LDCs on terms which correspond to their immediate and long-term development needs, and in that respect, donor countries, which have not yet done so, should endeavour to attain 0.15 per cent of their GNP as ODA to the LDCs before the end of the decade or should attain, on a priority basis, a doubling of their ODA by 1990,

3. Urges developed countries to fully implement UNCTAD Trade and Development Board Resolution 165(S-IX) expeditiously and to convert all outstanding bilateral ODA loans of all African LDCs into grants without discrimination,

4. Requests donors to provide increased and quick-disbursing balance-of-payments support as well as commodity aid, programme aid, including sector assistance and general import financing. Such balance-of-payments support in general must not be used to exercise political pressure on the African LDCs and should not be dependent on acceptance by these countries of IMF and/or IBRD structural adjustment and stabilization programmes which involve social costs that hinder their basic aims, objectives and priorities. The IMF should undertake a fundamental review of the principles on which its conditionality rests in such a way as to reflect the peculiar social, economic and spolitical priorities of the LDCs,

5. Urges the IMF and the World Bank to provide an effective mechanism in support of African LDCs currencies while they implement structural adjustment and stabilization programmes; otherwise these currencies will be subject to rapid exchange rate depreciation which in turn will aggravate already acute inflationary pressures, reduce growth and development in general,

6. Urges Organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant international institutions to intensify their efforts in establishing new mechanisms and arrangements for mobilising increased technical, financial and material resources for the LDCs,

7. Endorses the proposals contained in the Addis Ababa Declaration of the African Ministers responsible for trade and development preparatory to UNCTAD VII of 18 March, 1987 with respect to the problems of the African least developed countries and the corresponding measures recommended to be taken at the national and international levels to ensure the effective implementation of the SNPA,

8. Requests the Seventh Session of UNCTAD to explore the possibilities for fully compensating the export earning shortfalls of the LDCs. Special measures have to be taken to strengthen the commodity markets and enhance export receipts of the LDCs from such commodities. Special arrangements should also be considered for the LDCs in the IMF Compensatory Financing Facility Scheme by providing for full coverage of their export shortfalls, for the subsidization of their interest payments on outstanding drawings and for a longer repayment and grace periods than hiterto.

9. Requests the Executive Secretary of the ECA, in collaboration with UNDP, to provide resources, on pricrity basis, for studies to be carried out on the overall impact of structural adjustment and stabilisation programmes in a selected number of African least developed countries.